C o n f i d e n t i a l

NOT FOR PUBLICATION

Executive Committee No.59

M I N U T E S
of the
MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
of the
WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Geneva, February 9 - 13, 1959

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Confidential

Executive Committee No. 59
February 1959

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

M I N U T E S

of the

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Geneva, February 9 - 13, 1959

1. Presiding: Dr. Franklin Clark Fry, Chairman
Dr. Ernest A. Payne, Vice-Chairman

2. Attendance:

Presidents: Bishop Sante Uberto Barbieri
Bishop Otto Dibelius
Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill

Members: Dr. Eugene C. Blake
Dr. K. Bliss
Rev. P.K. Dagadu
Professor J.L. Hromadka
Dr. Martin Niemöller
Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam
Dean Liston Pope

Substitute: Metropolitan James of Melita (for Metropolitan James of Philadelphia)

Consultants: Dr. W.G. Carpenter
Sir Kenneth Grubb
Mr. Charles Parlin

Staff: Rev. P. Abrecht
Dr. M. Barot
Dr. Roswell P. Barnes
Dr. R.S. Bilheimer
Dr. K. Bridston
Dr. E. Chandler
Dr. L.E. Cooke
Rev. J. Garrett
Dr. Norman Goodall
Dr. H. H. Harms
Dr. O.F. Nolde
Mr. F. Northam
Rev. Ph. Potter
Rev. J.J. Thomsen
Dr. W.A. Visser 't Hooft
Dr. H. H. Wolf

3. Worship

Worship was led in the morning and evening by different members of the Committee.

4. Memorial Service

The opening session of the Committee was in large part a Memorial Service for the following members of the Central Committee, who had died since the Nyborg meeting:

Bishop G.K.A. Bell of the United Kingdom
Bishop Eivind Berggrav of Norway
Bishop Volkmar Herntrich of Germany
Archbishop Howard W.K. Mowll of Australia
The Rev. C. Denis Ryan of Australia

The Service was conducted by Dr. Fry, and immediately following it Bishop Dibelius, Bishop Sherrill, Dr. Payne and Dr. Visser 't Hooft spoke concerning the contribution which these men had made in the ecumenical movement.

5. The Minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of August 19 - 21, 1959, Nyborg, Denmark, were approved as circulated.

6. The General Secretary's Report

Dr. Visser 't Hooft prefaced his report by saying that he would not touch on a number of matters which will be dealt with separately later on, namely: The Nyborg Conference of European churches; relationships with the Moscow Patriarchate; the situation of Cyprus, the E.A.C.C. Assembly; and the integration of W.C.C. and I.M.C.

There are situations in several countries which must be constantly kept in our minds.

A. Rumania. The churches in Rumania, especially the Orthodox, but also the Lutheran and Reformed, are going through a very difficult time. 145 priests and monks of the Orthodox Church and several pastors of the Protestant churches are in prison. The general impression is that there has been a real religious renewal, almost revival, taking place in Rumania, and this action of the government has been taken against this background.

B. Spain. A serious situation continues to prevail in Spain. Several Baptist and Evangelical churches have been closed down, notably in Barcelona and Madrid. The Protestant church periodicals, which had never been officially permitted but had for some time been in circulation, are now definitely forbidden.

C. China. It is extremely difficult to know just what to say about the situation in China. The churches of China are "sleeping members" of the W.C.C. They have never withdrawn their membership. From more than one source information has been received that a considerable number of churches have been closed in large cities. The process in this direction may have been going on for some time.

D. In South India, namely Travancore, The Syrian Orthodox Church has been divided by litigation for the past 70 years. Only the so-called Catholicos Party was a member of the World Council and the Patriarchate Party has never joined the World Council. It has now come about that the litigation is over, and that reconciliation

is taking place. This is in part owing to the fact that the new Patriarch whose seat is in Damascus is taking a very different attitude. There may be a real possibility that th whole Syrian Orthodox Church in Travancore will become a member of the World Council. It is to be hoped that the Syrian Patriarchate may also join the W.C.C.

E. Eastern Europe. The Nyborg meeting of the European Churches revealed a rather happy relation between the churches in Western Europe and the churches in Czechoslovakia, Poland and Russia. We still have difficulties with churches in Hungary. The difficulty is not on all fronts. For example, the Inter-Church Aid in Hungary is going on very well, but the strain which came into existence at the New Haven meeting has not been resolved. Following the Nyborg Conference of European Churches the General Secretary had written a short letter to the churches in Hungary proposing not to dwell on the old matters but to move on forward with new things. No reply to this letter has yet been received. Bishop Bereczky has resigned under unhappy circumstances and no successor has been appointed as yet.

F. The Ecumenical Patriarchate. Difficulties still exist, as Metropolitan James of Philadelphia's letter indicates. He was not able to get his visa and could not be here. It is to be hoped that a good result may come from the Prime Ministers conference in Zürich.

G. Greece.There was a rather serious crisis following a meeting of the hierarchy of the Church of Greece. Metropolitan Pantaleimon of Salonica made a very fine statement on the W.C.C. which was severely attacked by the Bishop of Samos. This controversy was reported in the Greek public press in which the accusation was made that the Basis of the World Council was so stated as to allow unitarians to join it eventually. This "anti-trinitarian charge" is so serious that the General Secretary was constrained to issue a statement which had appeared in the Ecumenical Press Service. The final text of the message of the hierarchy that appeared in the official organ of the Greek Church, "Ecclesia", did not have this particular charge against the W.C.C. However, there remained other difficult issues. There was as a result of the whole event, a moment when it was doubtful whether the next Central Committee meeting could be held on the Island of Rhodes. It now seems, however, that a useful compromise can be reached so that the Rhodes meeting can take place as planned.

H. The Ecumenical Council to be called by Pope John XXIII. It is of utmost importance that we see this in the total context of the general development of Roman Catholic ecumenism. There has been a rather remarkable development of ecumenism in the Roman Catholic Church in recent years. Istina, for instance, used to be a small enterprise, but it is going to have, within the very near future, a headquarters in Paris with a staff of eight people studying nothing but ecumenical questions. Dr. Willebrands has been freed by the Archbishop of Utrecht to devote all his time to the study of ecumenism. Furthermore, the new Pope has brought a new atmosphere to the Vatican.

In regard more concretely to the papal announcement on the Ecumenical Council, the question is, what did the Pope announce? The Pope seems to have said far more on the first day informally than appeared in the official communique. In one of his speeches the Pope referred to the sharing of responsibilities with non-Roman churches, but the communique does not refer to this at all. There has been a lot of confusion in the secular press. One may very well question whether the Pope would invite anybody from outside the Roman Catholic Church. It is entirely conceivable that the Council itself, with no one from outside the Roman Church attending, may address itself to the non-Roman world. One of the following three things may happen:

- That which happened in 1870, namely that an invitation be extended to those churches outside of Rome, whose orders are regarded as valid by the Roman Church. But how can the churches that do not recognize the papal infallibility accept such an invitation?
- An invitation to attend the Council may take the form of invitation to conversion to Rome. But this also is improbable because of the recent development of ecumenism in the Roman Church.
- The Pope may invite the churches outside of Rome to send observers.

These are all possibilities. No clear decision seems to have been made.

What lies behind this? Two or three things can be said about it. First of all, this is obviously an attempt on the part of the Pope to regain initiative in the matter of church unity and may be interpreted as a result of the cumulative impact of the Ecumenical Movement on the Roman Catholic Church. In recent decades initiative for church unity came consistently from the World Council of Churches, and more recently our relationship with the Moscow Patriarchate clearly indicates that the initiative rests on the side of the W.C.C. Undoubtedly, the Pope genuinely wishes to regain the initiative. In the second place, John XXIII cannot change the policy of Pius XII as long as the policy-makers of his predecessor remain in power. The only way to get out of this predicament is to hold an Ecumenical Council, and he may wish to have it at the earliest possible date. It has been reported that the earliest possible date is 1961. The Vatican Council of 1870, however, took no less than five years for preparation. It is therefore very unlikely that the proposed council be held in 1961. In the third place, almost all Roman Catholic ecumenists are extremely perplexed by the papal announcement. Many of them, independently of one another, have said that the Pope, by starting with such a big issue as how to unite the Church, began at the wrong end, and is in danger therefore of causing a set-back in the ecumenical conversation. The real question that must be faced is, what step can be taken in the post-Vatican Council situation in which the Pope cannot give up his infallibility? Who else but the Roman Catholics would accept his invitation? Many of the Roman Catholic theologians wish that they can start with the "ABC of ecumenism" rather than with the ultimate end of it.

There had been so much pressure on the W.C.C. that it was impossible for the General Secretary not to make some statement. It is to be hoped that the statement made will have the approval of the Executive Committee. The Committee may wish to say something on the subject; a draft prepared by Dr. Barnes and the General Secretary is available for consideration.

We are very fortunate that within recent years very interesting contacts with the Roman Catholic Church had been established which we can take advantage of if we want. The General Secretary has received an invitation from the Bishop of Fribourg to meet with him, undoubtedly to discuss this matter. Dr. Harms will be going to Rome in March, and there are two or three other contacts which may prove very helpful. The papal announcement on the Ecumenical Council has already provided much publicity for the World Council of Churches, and we must make the most of it because of the opportunity it provides to say what we want to say out of the depth of our heart.

7. Roman Catholic Issues

There was full discussion of the portion of the General Secretary's report dealing with the Pope's announcement of an "Ecumenical Council" and the implications of this new development for the Ecumenical Movement and the W.C.C. It was stressed that background material on conciliar history should be provided for people in the churches, and that the opportunity should be used to provide popular orientation on issues of Church unity in the light of the experience of the churches in the Ecumenical Movement. It was suggested that an article or articles - possibly a symposium - should be considered for the July number of the Ecumenical Review.

A draft statement of observation on the Pope's announcement of an Ecumenical Council was presented for consideration. After extended discussion, it was decided not to issue a statement, but to prepare a draft resolution for the minutes which would record the interest of members in this matter and would authorize the appointment of a sub-committee to report to the Central Committee. Dr. Payne and Mr. Parlin were asked by the chair to prepare a draft resolution containing the points noted as well as the draft of an communiqué for the consideration of the officers.

At a later stage in the meeting Dr. Payne presented such a draft resolution which, after discussion and some revision, was adopted. The text of the resolution, as adopted, is as follows:

> "The Executive takes note of the deep interest reported among the constituent churches of the World Council of Churches over the announcement that the Pope proposes to call an Ecumenical Council, at least one concern of which will be to further Christian unity.
>
> "In view of the present uncertainty as to the exact composition and purpose of the proposed Council, the Executive decides that at this juncture no formal or extended comment should be made on the proposal.

"It is noted, however, that, as Dr. Visser't Hooft pointed out in the statement he issued on January 27th, the announcement made by the Pope has special significance for the World Council of Churches. The declared purpose of the World Council in the carrying on of the world movement for Faith and Order is: to proclaim the essential oneness of the Church of Christ and to keep prominently before the World Council and the Churches the obligation to manifest that unity and its urgency for the work of evangelism.

"The experience of the Ecumenical Movement, as represented today by the World Council, suggests (1) that progress toward unity is made when churches meet together with mutual respect and with committal to the truth of the Gospel, to charity and to faithful interpretation of their deepest convictions, and (2) that collaboration in specific tasks enables churches to know and understand one another better and thus helps to create the atmosphere which is needed if any discussions concerning unity are to lead to significant results. In connection with the latter, the Executive notes as first steps in inter-church relations the importance of the cooperation of the churches in working for a responsible society and for a just and durable peace; participation in theological discussions; and the establishment of religious liberty in every land. In the light of the above considerations, the Executive (i) requests the officers and staff to keep under review the implications of the development of the proposed 'Council' for the whole cause of Christian unity and to report to the Central Committee at its meeting in the summer, and (ii) expresses confidence that the member churches of the World Council will continue to pray for unity as Christ wills it."

Dr. Fry presented the draft of a communiqué which met with general approval (See Appendix 1)

8. Fraternal Delegation to Cyprus

Dr. H.H. Wolf reported on behalf of Bishop John Cullberg (Sweden) and himself who, in accordance with the Central Committee resolution, had been delegated to go as a "fraternal delegation to visit the authorities of the Church of Cyprus". The delegation was on the island from Wednesday, January 28th to Sunday, February 1st. They had been cordially received by the Locum Tenens, Bishop Anthimos, and other personalities of the Church of Cyprus and had visited many churches, monasteries and schools. The problems posed by the absence of the Archbishop had been laid before them as well as the very strong demand for self-determination. They had received permission to visit five priests now in the central prison. The press had followed the visit with great interest day by day. At the end of the visit the delegation had a useful conversation with the Governor, Sir Hugh Foot.

The delegation concluded:

a) that it is indispensable that the Archbishop be allowed to return as soon as possible,

b) that he come back ready for reasonable compromises,
c) that he come back ready to give new initiative to the spiritual growth of the Church of Cyprus, and
d) that further warm and brotherly contact between other W.C.C. member churches and the Church of Cyprus is of the utmost importance in cultivating a sense of mutual responsibility for the Christian task in the modern world.

The delegation expressed to church authorities the strong desire and hope that the Church of Cyprus would be prepared to send a delegation to the Central Committee meeting next summer.

The General Sectretary emphasized the strictly confidential character of the report.

Sir Kenneth Grubb reported on the C.C.I.A. contact with Sir Lennox Boyd and the helpfulness of the British Foreign Office.

The Metropolitan of Melita reported action taken after the return of the delegation.

Dr. Nolde reported on the UN resolution on Cyprus. The following resolution was adopted:

"The Executive Committtee has heard a report from the fraternal delegation which the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches had decided to send to Cyprus. It expresses its gratitude to its two representatives, Bishop John Cullberg and Dr. H.H. Wolf, for the ecumenical service which they have rendered. It notes that the visit has enabled the World Council to understand better the difficulties with which the Church of Cyprus has to cope, and specifically the problems created by the exile of Archbishop Makarios. The Executive Committee expresses the hope that the negotiations between the governments most concerned will lead soon to a solution of the outstanding problems and the return of Archbishop Makarios and that nothing will be left undone by the churches and the governments to create the atmosphere which is needed in order to make agreement possible.

9. The Third Assembly

A. Place of the Assembly

The General Secretary reported that as of the moment the situation in Ceylon is relatively quiet and that we have been advised to continue to make plabs to hold the Assembly there. Dr. Bilheimer will be in Ceylon and he and the General Secretary will be in India this spring and can gather data concerning Ceylon and if necessary an alternate place for the Assembly.

B. The General Theme.

After a substantial discussion, full notes of which are on file,

it was AGREED:

That the General Theme of the Assembly should have three functions, namely that it should serve as

a main centre of the spiritual preparation for the Assembly and as the point at which many people may participate in this preparation;

the guide and focus for the deliberations of the Assembly, especially its Sections, but also in all of its programme;

a means of the proclamation of the Gospel.

The task of the Commission on the General Theme will be to develope the Theme so that it may serve as "guide and focus" for the preparation of the Assembly and the work of its Sections. It is not expected that it should prepare a general report on all aspects of the Theme, but to concentrate on an exposition of those implications of the Theme which are of decisive importance for this particular Assembly in Asia at this time with its emphasis on unity, witness and service. It is hoped that this will be done in the form of a presentation of the Bibical message concerning Jesus Christ as the light of the World and its relevance for the task of the Church today and in a short document which can be used at the congregational level by all those who want to share in the spiritual process leading up to the Assembly.

In order to help fulfill these purposes, the Commission should prepare a document in two parts. The first should be a relatively brief - 4000 word - exegesis of the General Theme in which attention would be particularly given to the meaning of the theme for the Assembly subjects of unity, witness and service. The second would be a Bible study on the Theme for use in parishes and by the Assembly delegates. In doing so, the Commission should bear the following points in mind.

First, the Commission should make it clear that in the biblical usage "light" is historical and concrete, "etwas Geschehenes", and that to do so the study should be centered on the multiple relationships between Jesus Christ and the world. The emphasis here is upon "the world" the meaning of the light of Christ for our understanding of and mission in the world, and the event which has happened for the world in Jesus Christ.

Second, the Commission should be careful to provide, throughout its work, an exegesis in which the biblical themes of light and darkness are treated in the light of the total biblical message, in which, that is, the OT and the NT conceptions are fully taken into consideration. Negatively put, the Commission should avoid a too exclusive treatment of the theme in terms of any single biblical tradition, e.g. the Johannine.

Third, the Commission should provide an explicit biblical exegesis of the Theme with various non-biblical uses of the concept of light in mind. Some of these other uses of "light" are in the non-Christian religions: Hinduism and Buddhism. Some of them are perversions or involve a curtailment of the Christian concept. Some of them are merely mystical, philosophic or sentimental. The Commission should prepare an exegesis of the Theme which makes it clear in what ways the biblical concept of light may be radically different from these other, non-biblical uses of the term.

C. Procedure concerning the General Theme

After discussion, it was
AGREED: that the Executive Committee approve the following procedure:
i) That the officers of the Executive Committee be empowered to appoint the Commission on the General Theme, to consist of 7 members with an alternate for each to attend in case the principal cannot.

ii) That the Commission meet in June 1959, to prepare a first draft of its work.

iii) That this first draft be made available to the Preparatory Commissions for the Sections, meeting in Spittal in August 1959, and that it be presented to the Executive Committee.

iv) That subject to the approval of the Executive Committee, the Commission have a second meeting in June 1960 to prepare a second and nearly final draft.

v) That this second draft be used in the Preparatory Commission meetings in the summer of 1960.

vi) That this second draft be revised in any necessary minor ways in the autumn of 1960 and used in the member churches and by the Assembly delegates thereafter.

D. Titles of the Sections

After discussion of various alternatives suggested by the staff it was
AGREED: to recommend the following titles for the sections to the Central Committee.

1. Jesus Christ is the One Light - The Unity of the Church

2. Jesus Christ is the Light Shining unto every man - The Witness of the Church

3. Jesus Christ is the Light to the Nations - The Service of the Church.

E. The Work of the Sections

The staff presented, without recommendation, various suggestions

concerning the work of the Sections at the Assembly, and the way in which this work might be handled. There was substantial discussion, of which full notes are on file. The discussion was concluded without a formal action of the Committee, but with a general request to the staff to pursue the matter further along three lines, with a view to a definite proposal at the next meeting of the Executive Committee. These three lines would require an overall proceedure in which (a) the Assembly would have a full account of the deliberations of the Sections (b) the Assembly would receive the document from the Section in plenary session, without however having to give line by line approval to it, providing that the Assembly in plenary session can have opportunity to take exception to a part of the document without having to reject the whole; and (c) the Assembly would issue a substantial statement or "encyclical" based upon the work of the Sections.

F. Full Preparation for the Sections.

It was AGREED: that in addition to the Preparatory Commission meetings authorised by the Central Committee for 1959 and 1960, general approval be given to meetings of officers of the Preparatory Commissions and of the small drafting groups of the Commissions in 1961, for the task particularly of preparing whatever draft is required for the immediate work of the Section.

G. Preparatory Commissions for the Sections.

The staff presented preliminary working papers for the meetings of the Preparatory Commissions next summer. Time did not permit discussion of these in the Committee, and members were asked to send in their individual comments.

Concerning membership in the Preparatory Commissions,

It was AGREED: that the Executive Committee empower its officers to appoint a limited number of persons, beyond the membership of the Departmental Working Committees, to the Preparatory Commissions, and to appoint the officers of the Preparatory Commissions.

H. The Assembly Committees.

In the light of the discussion concerning the nature and task of the Committees at the Assembly, the staff presented proposals and after discussion

It was AGREED: That the following be recommended to the Central Committee as defining the task of the Committees of the Assembly:

1. The Committee is the place where the basic thinking of the sections is translated into main lines of work for each Division and Department for the ensuing period.

2. In making decisions concerning main lines of work, each

Committee should be encouraged to give its reasoning behind its decisions. Thus the Committees would be led into substantive discussions of the work of the Divisions and Departments, and the result of this discussion should appear in the Committee's report.

3. These decisions will also necessitate a selection of work to be done, which means the determination in broad outline of the programme of the Division or Department.

4. Details of this programme should not be attempted by the Committee at the Assembly, but referred to the Central Committee and the Working Committees in the period after the Assembly.

5. Throughout their deliberations, the Committees should make a critical review of the work accomplished to date by the Divisions and Departments.

I. Framework of Assembly Programme

In response to a suggestion from the staff, the Committee gave general approval to a first outline of the Assembly programme, for submission at a later meeting of the Committee, in which a first set of days would be devoted to Sections followed by a series of plenary meetings for action upon Section statements; that a second set of days then follow devoted to Committees, followed by a series of plenary meetings for action upon Committee reports.

J. Time Schedule and Coordination with the Programme and Finance Committee.

February 1959:	First draft, report of Programme and Finance Committee
August 1959:	Working Committees begin work preparing for Assembly Committees; Working Committees comment upon draft report of Programme and Finance Committee. Central Committee comments upon first draft of Programme and Finance Committee.
February 1960:	Second draft, report of Programme and Finance Committee
August 1960:	Major work of Working Committees in preparation for Assembly Committees, using second draft of Programme and Finance Committee as basis.
	Report to Central Committee: Working Committee's plans and Programme and Finance Committee Report.
August 1961:	Final details of preparations for Assembly Committees, by officers of working committees. Report to Central Committee, and issue to Assembly delegates in early autumn of 1961

K. Rules of Debate and Procedure

The Committee had before it a paper prepared by the Chairman, Canon David Say, of the sub-committee on this matter, and discussed it at

some length. The Committee encouraged the sub-committee to proceed along the lines indicated in Canon Say's paper, and made many valuable comments. Record of these comments has been made and will be transmitted to Canon Say and the sub-committee.

L. Allocation of Places.

The staff presented an analysis which indicated (a) that an allocation of places could not be made until the size of the total number of delegates was fixed; (b) that if the number of delegates were reduced seriously from the Evanston number of 600, the churches with larger delegations would be seriously penalized; (c) that there was widespread general agreement with the Evanston allocations. After discussion, it was AGREED:

> to recommend to the Central Committee that the number of delegates for the Third Assembly be fixed at 600, and to request the staff to develop for the next meeting of the Executive Committee a proposal for the allocation of places among the member churches, using the Evanston allocations as the basis, but making such modifications in it as may be needed on account of mergers, new members or serious inequities, and consulting confessional and regional church leaders concerning the new allocations.

10. Integration of the I.M.C. and W.C.C.

Dr. Goodall, introducing the subject, reported that no new decision is called for by this Committee. He reminded the Committee that the Central Committee meeting at Nyborg expressed the wish to have official replies from member churches by January 1959. So far only few replies have been received. Two of them, however, can be considered as model replies. For example, the report of the Advisory Committee appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury is a tremendously important document on the basis of which the Church of England formulated its reply. The member councils of the IMC are to send in their replies by April 30th this year. Other tasks related to the integration are being carried forward by appropriate sub-committees on

1. Finance
2. The question of relations of N.C.Cs to the Ecumenical Movement
3. The question of interchurch aid and missions of the Church

Dr. Carpenter, speaking for the I.M.C., reported that only a few formal replies have been received from the member councils as of this date. The reason for delay is that each council has to secure the reaction of each of its constituents. So far those who have replied affirmatively have all expressed their agreement with the terms on which integration should take place. Dr. Carpenter also stated that various meetings held in the intervening months have confirmed the soundness of the integration plan. He also said that he and his colleagues feel a growing sense of oneness already existing between the W.C.C. and the I.M.C.

Dr. Visser 'T Hooft reported that some 20 replies have been received from the member churches, all but one being positive. The one exception is the Reformed Church of France. Referring to the reply from

the Church of England, Dr. Visser 't Hooft said that it really is a model reply and the Commission appointed by the Archbishop of Canterbury had studied the issues involved thoroughly, taking up seriously all possible objections to the integration and responsibly refuting them. A mimeographed copy of this document was then circulated.

Metropolitan James said that the official organ of the Ecumenical Patriarchate had printed an article on this matter which stated that the Greek Orthodox Church is concerned about two matters.(a) Whether the World Council of Churches may change its basic character after integration and (b) tendencies which appear in various quarters in connection with exposition of the unity and mission of the Church are not acceptable to the Greek Orthodox Church because they appear to encourage proselytism.

At this point the Committee was reminded of the time table of various meetings. The Joint Committee will meet in August prior to the Central Committee meeting; the Administrative Committee of the I.M.C. will be meeting in July and the Central Committee will be taking a definite action on the matter of integration not this year but in 1960.

Bishop Barbieri proposed that another circular letter be sent from the General Secretariat urging the member churches to send in their replies as soon as possible.

Dr. Barnes, in connection with the slowness for the replies to come in, raised the question whether member churches are waiting for the text of terms to appear before they can give their reply. He asked when such a text will be available.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft said that the second point in Metropolitan James' report is very important. The Greek Orthodox Church is not opposed to the integration but fears that integration may become a pretext for proselytising activities on the part of some churches. The W.C.C. has an excellent study document on proselytism, which has been fairly widely studied in Greece as well as in other countries. Should we not develop this document into something of a policy document and have the Central Committee adopt it as such? With a little revision, the study document could become a policy document.

Dr. Carpenter said that he would very much like to see I.M.C. associated with such a document and asked what kind of action on the part of the I.M.C would be most appropriate in this connection.

Dr Visser 'T Hooft suggested that the Joint Committee might take action on it.

Metropolitan James supported the idea of Bishop Barbieri to send reminders to member churches and also Dr. Visser 't Hooft's proposal. He reported that the Church of Greece is now studying the proselytism document very seriously. Therefore it will be very timely if a policy document be presented to the Central Committee meeting at Rhodes.

Dr. Blake stated that because of the prospect of integration, the United Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A. has reviewed its missionary activities in the Orthodox Church areas, a fact which leads to the conclusion that integration will result in less proselytising on the part of the Presbyterians.

Bishop Sherrill made reference to the discussion on proselytism at the Galyatetö meeting and wondered what has become of the committee that prepared the discussion then.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft said that that committee, chaired by Bishop Dun, has not been disbanded. Many of the members are on the Religious Liberty Committee now. He suggested that all the members of that committee should receive the report of this discussion and their opinion should be solicited with regard to the next step of this document.

Metropolitan James warned that there ought not to be too radical a change in the document because it has been translated into Greek. Therefore, unless it is kept substantially the same, there will be a great deal of confusion.

It was AGREED: that a reminder be sent out to the member churches together with the Payne- Moses pamphlet in which the General Secretariat should report progress since Nyborg, urging those who have not already replied to send in their reply by the summer meeting.

It was AGREED: that the study document on proselytism be revised and presented to the I.M.C. and the Joint Committee for comment , and that it then be presented to the Central Committee on the understanding that there will be a major discussion on this document at Rhodes, anticipating the adoption of a policy statement by the 1960 meeting of the Central Committee.

11. Regional Developments

A. Nyborg Conference of European churches.

Bishop Dibelius reported on the Nyborg Conference of European Churches, stating that it was his obersvation that 85% of the participants were fully satisfied with the conference while 15% had some critical reactions to it. We were all made conscious of the unique European tradition which goes back to the time of Emperor Constantine. This tradition makes Europe unique from any other part of the world. There had been earlier attempts to have a European Conference of churches, but always along certain theological or ecclesiological lines and not to include all churches. The Nyborg Conference was in that respect any entirely new attempt and the response to it was really remarkable. Earlier groups which had sought to organise European co-operation voluntarily agreed to be absorbed into this new European Conference. The Conference elected a 11 man continuation committee.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft echoed what Bishop Dibelius had reported from the standpoint of an observer at the Conference. Many of us went to Nyborg with apprehension. We were happily surprised to see such good result of the conference, and credit goes to those who prepared for the Conference, and more particularly to Bishop Dibelius. The Nyborg Conference asked the World Council of Churches to allow Dr. Harms to act as secretary of the continuation committee. What is envisaged is not in any sense a European council of churches comparable to the East Asia

Christian Conference, but something far less elaborate. It is significant to note that the churches represented at Nyborg - many of whom are not memebers of the World Council - unanimously expressed their desire that Dr. Harms be appointed as secretary of the European Conference. This, as in the case of E.A.A.C., was a very happy decision, although it means that Dr. Harms will be very busy. Dr. Visser 't Hooft concluded his remarks by asking the Executive Committee to give permission to Dr. Harms' acting as secretary for the European Churches in addition to the responsibilities he is already carrying for the Division of Studies.

> It was AGREED: that there are no objections against Dr. Harms' acting as secretary of the Continuation Committee of the Nyborg Conference.

Dr. Harms said that insofar as the workload for the secretary is concerned he is not as optimistic as the General Secretary seems to be. He anticipates that he will have to spend a great deal of time in this capacity. But he said he is very happy to report that the churches from the other side of the Iron Curtain and the minority churches in Western Europe are adequately represented on the 11 man Continuation Committee. The European Conference has expressed the desire that it should be independent in relation to the World Council of Churches. The question was asked whether Great Britain was represented. It was answered that an invitation went to the British Council of Churches and that Canon Waddams of the Church of England and the Rev. Kenneth Slack of the British Council of Churches were authorized to represent the Church of England and the free churches respectively.

B. East Asia Christian Council

The General Secretary reported on the forthcoming E.A.C.C. Assembly. The Assembly is to meet at Port Dickson, Malaya, from May 14 - 25, 1959; There will be five major lectures: two by Bishop Newbigin, two by Dr. D.T. Niles and one by Dr. Visser 't Hooft. The structure of the Assembly provides for Asian consultations on

a. the Rapid Social Change study;
b. Interchurch Aid;
c. Mission and Evangelism.

The voting members, all from Asian churches, will be 68 in number and there will be a substantial number of consultants invited from churches and N.C.Cs in Asia. Several of the staff members of the W.C.C., I.M.C., and C.C.I.A. are also invited to participate in different capacities. The proposed constitution of E.A.C.C. which will be discussed at this Assembly, very clearly indicates the Asian view on the function of the E.A.C.C. and its relation to the I.M.C. and W.C.C. Its terms are not substantially different from what they were at Prapat.

> It was AGREED that the Executive Committee authorises the members of the staff attending the E.A.C.C. Assembly to approve of the portion of the Constitution involving W.C.C.

Mr. Potter briefly reported on the interim committee which met in Singapore last May. The mood of the meeting stressed the fact that the "vote"

is in the hands of the Asians, but that in discussion there must be maximum participation of churchmen from the West as well as from Asia.

C. Regional Development in Africa

Dr. Carpenter said that it is difficult to report on African development because it is largely in process. There is a sense in which the Ibadan All-Africa Church Conference is comparable to the Prapat Conference in Asia. However, the process leading up to Ibadan is not at all comparable to the process prior to Prapat. The significance of Ibadan was that Africans discovered the unity which bound them together as Christians. This was a surprise to everybody and they expressed their desire to maintain this unity. They appointed a continuation committee of 10 and Dr. Carpenter is the only member of this committee not resident in Africa. This committee is to study whether a secretariat is needed at this stage or whether a continuation committee will suffice. There was a first provisional meeting held at Brazzaville at which Mr. Jack Grant represented Dr. Carpenter. This meeting was too much preoccupied with organizational matters and not enough with programmes and activities.

Dr. Carpenter said that the most crucial question is, What is the function of the church in Africa? In practical terms it means a change from a mission-dominated pattern to a church-centered pattern or, to put it differently, from a foreign based operation to a locally based operation. Unless this change takes place, there cannot be any healthy regional development. The Christian councils in Africa need this change both in their thinking and in their structure in keeping with the rapidly changing Africa itself.

Mr. Dagadu said that he is not a member of the provisional committee but said that the Brazzaville meeting looked upon the idea of a regional council with favour.

Dr. Carpenter reported that the E.A.C.C. took initiative and invited an observer from Africa to its forthcoming Assembly, and the I.M.C. is sending Sir Francis Ibiam in this capacity.

Mr. Dagadu commented on the plan for a woman coordinator to be sent to Africa south of the Sahara, and asked whether there has been any definite appointment made?

Dr. Cooke reported that this matter had been raised by Mlle. Barot and then was referred to the Division of Interchurch Aid. A team of two women has been appointed who will have their headquarters in Ghana and work in the whole of West Africa. A budget of $ 20,000.- for a three-year period has been allocated and the first $ 8,000.- will be definitely voted at the forthcoming Administrative Committee meeting and be turned over to the Department on Cooperation of Men and Women, which will administer this whole programme.

D. Regional Development in Latin America

Dr. Visser 't Hooft asked the chair to recognize Dr. Dudley who has helped the W.C.C. on matters pertaining to Latin America. He also reported that Dr. Yoder on the Committee of Cooperation in Latin America

is expected to be in Geneva shortly.

Dr. Dudley said that he spent three weeks in Brazil last November. He said he was very cordially received in Brazil as well as by those who are concerned about Latin American affairs in the USA. There are many reasons to believe that the ecumenical movement has a rather bright future in Latin America. In spite of this, however, we must be very careful with regard to statements we make on the W.C.C's relations to the Roman Catholic Church. Protestant Christians in Latin America are very sensitive on this point.

The development of the Pentecostal Movement is spectacular. Dr. Dudley reported that there may be some organizational change in the Confederation of the Evangelical Churches in Brazil. Another important issue in Latin America in general is the matter of theological education. Many leaders in Latin America are very conscious of it. All in all, Dr. Dudley said, officers of I.M.C. and W.C.C. will find a cordial welcome in Latin America provided that they go there to render service to the Christian movement in Latin America and not to promote the programmes of I.M.C. and W.C.C. Finally, Dr. Dudley emphatically stated that in his opinion the most strategic role will be played by ecumenical scholars and expressed his hope that 10 such students a year may be given the opportunity to study abroad.

12. Relations with the Moscow Patriarchate

The General Secretary reported that before any definite steps can be taken by the Moscow Patriarchate, it will have to communicate with all the Orthodox Churches that participated in the Moscow Conference of 1948. The Patriarchate, at the time of the Utrecht meeting, had intended to call a conference similar to that of 1948. Subsequently this proved impossible and therefore communication is being done by letter. We have received message from the Patriarchate that observers will definitely be sent to Rhodes. It had been agreed that the Moscow Patriarchate would send representatives for a prolonged visit in Geneva to see the actual work of every department. However, an official letter to implement this agreement has not yet been received.

Metropolitan James reported that he saw Metropolitan Nicolai at Helsinki last November. Metropolitan Nicolai was very pleased with the Utrecht agreement and assured him that there will be two or three men coming to Geneva and Bossey in the near future. Furthermore Dr. Visser 't Hooft will be invited to Moscow to deliver lectures at the Theological Seminary and other places. Metropolitan Nicolai will come to Rhodes, and will accompany Bishop James to Constantinople.

Prof. Hromadka reported that he, too, saw Metropolitan Nicolai last December very shortly after the latter's return from Helsinki. He also visited Latvia and Estonia. Prof. Hromadka said they all showed large interest in the Nyborg Conference as he reported on it. Furthermore he said that the Russian Orthodox Church will have a conference with Orthodox Churches in Eastern Europe and will be able to send representatives to Rhodes. Prof. Hromadka concluded his remarks by saying that the political climate in general will be more favourable for closer cooperation with Easternchurches.

13. Religious Liberty

Dr. Carrillo de Albornoz presented four papers:-

I. Ecumenical Statements on Religious Liberty
II. Observations to the Ecumenical Statements on Religious Freedom
III. Report of the Evangelical Church A. and H.B. on Religious Liberty in Austria
IV. Report on the Position of Religious Liberty in Italy.

He said that so far there had not been any compendium of the World Council's statements on Religious Liberty which might be circulated among the member churches. Therefore Document 1. had been prepared, which can be circulated as a public document. Document II is an analysis and is of a confidential nature and must be used as such. Documents III and IV are reports on the actual situation in Austria and Italy and are not for public circulation but may be used fairly freely by those who are seriously interested in the question. Dr. Carrillo said that he had hoped that reports on situations in East Germany and Moslem countries also would have been ready by now, but unfortunately they were not completed. He reported that he is currently engaged in a study of modern Roman Catholic thought on Religious Liberty. The difficulty here is that there is too much material to make a brief report possible. He commented that the Roman Catholics undertake serious theological studies but have made very few statements on the question of Religious Liberty, whereas the Protestant churches have made excellent statements in recent years but have not done enough serious theological work on the question. He expressed hope that this situation may be corrected.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft said that the Central Committee in a previous meeting decided to have a special commission appointed to study the question of Religious Liberty. Dr. Alford Carleton has been appointed as chairman of this commission, but the commission itself has not been fully appointed. Dr. Visser 't Hooft himself is serving as secretary of this commission and Dr. Carleton is expected to be here in Geneva in April. In the meantime, Dr. Visser 't Hooft continued, Mr. M.M. Thomas of India has started a study of Religious Liberty in Asia within the framework of E.A.C.C. and Dr. Carrillo is in close touch with this Asian study. The question before us is, what use can be made of Document I? Dr. Visser 't Hooft remarked that this document will be most useful if it can be placed in the hands of small working study groups accompanied by Document II. With regard to the study in Moslem countries Dr. Visser 't Hooft commented that it is virtually impossible to have anybody in Egypt write on the subject at the moment.

Bishop Barbieri said he would highly recommend the circulation of Document I among all the churches. He said he would like to see more emphasis laid on the question of religious education and nationalism. This question of the conflict between the totalitarian state and religious groups on matters of religious education is a very serious issue and one which is missing in this document. Bishop Barbieri further raised the question as to whether a study of the situation in Spain might not be conducted, and whether C.C.I.A. had anything substantial to report. He said it appears to the world as if the World Council has been completely silent on Spain for the past two years.

Sir Kenneth Grubb reported that he had been trying to keep in touch with the situation in Spain as closely as possible but would hesitate very much to take any action unless a request comes from the Spanish Evangelical Church. Sir Kenneth said that he is planning to pay a visit to Spain in a few months.

Bishop Barbieri asked whether it would not be possible for the W.C.C. to send a fraternal delegate to Spain as it did to Cyprus? Why cannot we have an objective study of the existing situation and, more particularly, a study of the Roman Catholic attitude toward religious liberty and their actions against religious liberty?. The Bishop said that care must be taken to distinguish the Roman Catholic people and the Roman Catholic hierarchy on the matter of religious liberty. He made an observation that the announcement of the ecumenical council to be called by the Pope may have created a favourable climate in which to promote a study on religious liberty in Latin countries. Bishop Barbieri also asked whether, since a study in Egypt is impossible, a study in Pakistan might be feasible to look into the question of religious liberty in Moslem countries.

Dr. Carrillo said that now it is a very good time to raise the question of religious liberty with the Roman Catholics. There is no doubt that the announcement on the ecumenical council has created a favourable climate for it and, of course, there are a number of Roman Catholic theologians who have taken stands in favour of religious liberty and have been defended by the Roman Catholic hierarchy against the attack of those who are opposed to religious liberty. As far as the situation in Spain is concerned, confidential reports received from Spain in recent months indicate that the Spanish government is extremely nervous as a result of political disturbances, and Protestants, being political suspects - albeit unjustly - have been put in a very difficult position.

Dr. Niemöller: I am rather embarrassed because this study was initiated by the Central Committee at its Yale meeting 1.1/2 years ago largely due to the disturbance in Colombia and Spain, and yet as of today we have done nothing on either Colombia or Spain although we have here something to report on Italy and Austria.

Bishop Sherrill: I know a number of Roman Catholics in the U.S.A. who are extremely critical of the actions taken by the Spahish government. Why cannot we establish contact with them?

Dr. Blake: It is well and good to have an ecumenical study on this question. But would it not be as important to study confessional positions on the subject? Would it not be very helpful to have a collection of statements adopted by various confessional and denominational groups on matters of religious liberty?

The chairman suggested that when a copy of Document I is sent out, it may be accompanied by a letter asking for the positions of various church groups.

Dean Pope raised the question as to what kind of use this particular document may be put?

Dr. Barnes: This compendium betrays our preoccupation with legal

aspect of the question. There has not been enough consideration on the more basic freedom of which religious freedom is one aspect, namely, freedom as one of the basic human rights. Ought we not to start our study with this fundamental problem rather than with religious freedom?

Prof. Hromadka expressed his agreement with Dr. Barnes.

Mr. Abrecht made reference to Dr. Carrillo's paper prepared for the E.A.C.C. Assembly. In this paper he discussed the problem of religious liberty within the context of the whole network of social and cultural problems. Would it be possible to produce the same kind of paper both for Europe and for Latin America? This will meet the point raised by Dr. Barnes.

Sir Kenneth Grubb stated that the question of religious liberty must be seen in the context of man's relation to his community and the state. When empha sis is laid upon the community relations, the discussion of religious liberty becomes an extremely vital matter to contemporary Asians and Africans. As for the Moslem areas, it would be better not to choose countries like Pakistan or Indonesia, but rather one of those areas where Christians and Moslems are of about equal strength, such as West Africa, and to conduct a study within the framework of the general canon of liberty in community relations.

Dr. Blake: To start with man, community and state certainly will make the basis of the study much broader than before but will not raise the really basic issue, namely, to whom man ultimately owes his allegiance.

Bishop Barbieri said that he has been named as member of the Commission. But since he cannot be present at this summer's meeting, he asked to have Mr. Luis Odell be named as his substitute.
The question was raised whether Dr. Vidler's suggestion that Dr. Sykes replace him may be accepted? The point was made that since Prof. Sykes has agreed to undertake a biography of the late Bishop Bell, he may not find it possible to serve on the Commission.

It was AGREED: To name Mr. Luis Odell as a substitute for Bishop Barbieri at the Commission meeting this summer, and seek farther for a person to replace Dr. Vidler.

Bishop Sherrill expressed his concern for Dr. Carrillo who is starting his important work being faced with all these numerous suggestions and requests. The Bishop assured him of the interest of the Committee and encouraged him to go ahead with his study doing what he can and not to be discouraged by the amount of demands made upon him.

14. Report of the C.C.I.A.

Dr. Nolde presented a) Memorandum on Selected Actions, UN General Assembly, 16th Sept. - 13th Dec. 1958, and b) a draft statement on controlled cessation of tests of atomic weapons. In connection with the latter he reported in detail on issues before the current international conference in Geneva on Cessation of Tests. After full discussion and some textual revision a statement on controlled cessation of tests was adopted, which read as follows:-

"Ever since man unleashed the power of the atom, the peoples of the world have feared its threat of destruction and sought the promise which this development has offered. They have searched hopefully, but thus far without success, for steps by which to minimize the danger of war and to release power for peace.

"The Conference on the Cessation of Tests now meeting in Geneva could break the current deadlock. The considerable progress achieved in the technical approach to the detection of tests should now make it possible for political leaders to reach constructive agreements.

"Both the World Council of Churches and its members in many parts of the world have repeatedly pleaded in statements and representations for an approach to disarmament which could start from a controlled cessation of tests. Therefore this Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches, currently meeting in Geneva during days which are critical for the Conference, welcomes the efforts to this end now being put forth.

"We realise that the question of international control is the crux. The powers of the control commission, as well as the composition of the inspection teams, are in dispute. Perseverance in the effort to resolve these difficulties is a responsibility which the negotiating governments bear towards all peoples.

"It must be recognised that any agreement, however carefully framed, involves a measure of calculated risk for all parties. Yet in face of the atomic peril, so fraught with grave consequences for present and future generations, acceptance of such risk is surely justified. Moreover, every agreement is one more step in the struggle to allay suspicion and build confidence

"To make tests to cease is important in itself. To demonstrate that international controls are feasible in relation to the cessation of testing can, in the long run, prove even more worth while in the development of regulated and progressive disarmement.

"In commending this statement to our member churches throughout the world, we urge them to do everything possible to build an informed public opinion about these issues which are vitally at stake and to make such representations to their governments as they deem proper, especially in countries whose governments are directly involved in the negotiations on the cessation of tests. We further request the officers of the Commission of the Churches on International Affairs to bring this statement personally to the attention of the heads of the delegations at the current conference - the United Kingdom, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the United States - and to pursue these objectives through every appropriate means."

Sir Kenneth Grubb reported on other C.C.I.A. matters, including the proposal of a "World Hunger Year" and a possible additional 'staff' member in this connection: the decision to issue a periodical C.C.I.A. information sheet: considerations to be presented to the C.C.I.A. Executive regarding the kind of organization needed to follow the problem of Arab refugees: agreement with Division of Studies on steps to be followed in study on "Prevention of War": strategic studies on race relations, etc: consideration of the multiple form taken by Roman Catholic representation vis-à-vis UN agencies and the implications of this for W.C.C. Sir Kenneth also gave a progress report on situations in several African countries regarding which C.C.I.A. has been involved: further information and comment were provided by several members.

Dr. Nolde gave a progress report on C.C.I.A. action re Economic and Technical Assistance indicating developments regarding 1) arrangements for "soft" loans through the Special Projects Fund, 2) co-ordination of various technical assistance programs, 3) studies on population, 4) non-self-governing territories and trusteeships, He reported also on 1) the question of Arab refugees upon forthcoming expiration of UN mandate, 2) "Refugee Year", 3) Disarmament: a) question of "outer space", b) technical approach to surprise attack, 4) "offshore islands" issue 5) China (reference of Cleveland Study conference), 6) Berlin situation.
* Dr. Charles Malik on the occasion of his election to the Presidency of the UN General Assembly. Dr. Nolde also reported interest taken in the U.S.A. visit of Archbishop Tiran. He stated that formal appointments had been arranged for meetings during the week with the three delegations to the Conference on Cessation of Atomic Tests now meeting in Geneva. He also indicated work being done in the field of Human Rights and Discrimination, including the drafting of rules for implementation of Article 17 in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. He announced projected interconfessional action in the United States toward carrying on an inquiry in Colombia directed at finding solutions to the difficulties there: C.C.I.A. is acting in an advisory capacity in the matter.

Bishop Dibelius said that there are two sides to the Berlin situation, political and religious. Limiting his remarks to the church side of the problem, he said: The problem will be more on the side of the East than of the West. If Soviet Russia proceeds along the line as she has announced, then West Berlin will be a state by itself and there will be no more opportunity for the people of East Berlin to come and meet with churchmen of the West in West Berlin. Nor can the churchmen of West Berlin meet with the church people of East Berlin. West Berlin has been the only place where East and West Germans were able to get together.

One of the most serious questions involved in the peace treaty proposed by Russia is contained in its paragraph 14 in which there are three words with regard to religious rights of people, and this paragraph does not fully adhere to United Nations declarations of human rights. The three words mentioned are: Freiheit des Kultus, which means freedom of religion within the walls of the church, and this is exactly the freedom of religion as exists in the U.S.S.R, i.e. there will be no more free church life. Bishop Dibelius said that he is concerned whether leading church people and diplomats in other parts of the world fully realize the implications of this article 14. The Bishop asked the members of the
* A luncheon was held under C.C.I.A. auspices in honour of

Executive Committee and the C.C.I.A. to do their utmost to explain the real meaning of the above mentioned three words to church people throughout the world, for, he reiterated, this does not mean the beginning of religious liberty but rather the end of church life.

Dr. Nolde commented briefly on Bishop Dibelius' concern for religious liberty in the constitution proposed by the USSR, stating that the USSR always interprets religious liberty in terms of freedom of religious worship, transforming it into something entirely different from what we mean by religious liberty. The CCIA has been fighting this concept and will not cease to do so.

15. Report of the Division of Inter-church Aid and Service to Refugees

Dr. Cooke reported that this year this Executive Committee is meeting prior t to the Administrative Committee meeting of the ICA/SR and therefore there is not much to report on matters that need policy decision. The substance of Dr. Cooke's report was circulated in mimeographed form. He emphasized that this Division is always faced with emergencies and no appeal ever falls on deaf ears. Dr. Dudley's trip to Brazil, for example, is in response to the appeal made at Nyborg and is believed to have far-reaching implications for the relationships of W.C.C. to that vast continent in the years to come. Dr. Cooke stated that the Division is in negotiation with the Hungarian churches with regard to the use of the money raised at the time of the Hungarian crisis for the Hungarian churches.

With regard to the E.A.C.C. Assembly the Division and the I.M.C. agreed jointly to finance the forthcoming E.A.C.C. Assembly. The share of this Division is $ 14,725.- of which $ 12,500.- have been underwritten by Dr. Wilson of Church World Service. Miss Lacey of the Interchurch Aid Division of the British Council of Churches agreed to pay $ 2,800.-, which reduces the amount of C.W.S.' responsibility to $ 9,700.-. In the meantime, there have been substantial contributions coming from churches outside the United States, which again reduces the amount C.W.S. actually has to pay. Dr. Cooke reported that Mr. James Atkinson who did a fine job of survey of new villages in Malaya is now working in Hong Kong.

Dr. Schomer's place has been filled by Dr. Williams from Wales. Dr. Williams was introduced to the Committee.

Dr. Chandler reported on the plan for the World Refugee Year and the positive interest shown in it on the part of the churches in the U.S.A. He expects more refugees will be sponsored by the U.S. churches in the forthcoming year.

Having paid tribute to Miss Jaboor for her untiring and excellent work, Dr. Chandler said that the refugee budget, for the first time in history, has a small surplus of $ 390.-. Dr. Chandler said that he is one person who is not happy when there is a surplus in the fund because it means that that much less help went to the refugees.

Mr. Dagadu rose to express the appreciation of the churches in Ghana for the wonderful gesture shown by the Division of Inter-Church Aid with reference to the refugees from Togoland. He also mentioned that the churches in Ghana took up a special collection for this work at the services of last Sunday.

Dr. Rees spoke on the World Refugee Year. It is the governments that finally decided on the World Refugee Year and therefore the governments should take initiative in programmes and activities of this World Refugee Year. However, the churches must give moral and spiritual support to it. So far nothing has been said by the W.C.C. and it is hoped that this Executive Committee meeting may adopt a resolution.

After discussion it was AGREED:

to adopt the following resolution on World Refugee Year:

The EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE of the WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Noting with satisfaction that 59 governments, members of the United Nations "convinced of the need to make a further world-wide effort to help resolve the world refugee problem" have resolved to declare a World Refugee Year to begin in June 1959

Reaffirming the ongoing and permanent concern of the World Council of Churches for homeless people, whoever they are and wherever they are

Welcomes most cordially the decision of the United Nations to proclaim such a year in the hope that all governments supporting the resolution will take some positive action to validate their votes

Affirms that the World Council of Churches, in addition to its permanent service will do all in its power to co-operate in any constructive initiative taken by governments to solve the problem of refugees.

Emphasises to governments and all concerned that there are so many refugees, and such difficult situations, that their problems simply cannot be solved in one year, yet earnestly hopes that the problems of many more may be solved in this year than in any previous year, and that the World Refugee Year may result in far greater attention to their needs in the years to follow.

Prays God's blessing on this initiative.

16. Report of the Division of Ecumenical Action

In the absence of Mr. House, Mlle. Barot made a brief report. She said that the Division tries to keep in close contact with regional developments. The Division was represented in the All-Africa Church Conference, which opened up new opportunities for work in Africa and especially the work with women, and the team for West Africa mentioned above, is a direct result of it. As for Asia, Mr. Weltge of the Youth Department will be spending three months there this spring. Mr. Weber of the Department on the Laity is just completing his three months in Asia, and Mlle Barot herself will be going to the forthcoming Assembly of the E.A.C.C.

For Latin America, the Youth Department participated in the youth

visitation two years ago, and the Department on Co-operation of Men and Women will have a definite programme this coming autumn.

Turning to the matter of personnel, Mlle. Barot said that the Department on the Laity has recenly lost the service of Mr. Andrews who had been loaned by the Presbyterian Church, US for one year. In the Department on Co-operation of Men and Women Miss Turnbull is leaving shortly, and her place is expected to be filled by a man. The Department feels the need of a trained la wyer, as it deals with legal problems involved in the status of women.

Mlle. Barot, speaking of the work of the Department on Co-operation of Men and Women, said that many requests come for information and guidance not only from churches throughout the world, but also from non-Christian organizations in non-Christian countries, and, more particularly from Moslem countries. The Department on the Laity and the Department on Co-operation, it was reported, have agreed to share the Bulletin together.

Youth Department

Mr. Potter reported that the Department conceives its task in terms of preparation for the next generation of the Ecumenical Movement. There are two or three regional conferences being planned. A European Assembly was approved last year expect its financial aspect. The plan is going forward as is seen in the paper circulated.

In North America a meeting of 3,000 top youth leaders from both the USA and Canada will be held in August 1961.

In Asia there was a meeting of youth leaders last August, and five youth delegates have been selected to attend the E.A.C.C. Assembly this year, one of whom will be a speaker at the Assembly. There will also be a youth division in the E.A.C.C.

We are now concerned about the youth consultants for the Third Assembly of 1961 and are eagerly waiting for the action of the Executive Committee on this matter.

In Latin America a training course for youth is being planned for early 1960 in Costa Rica, which is at the centre of anti-ecumenical climate.

Dr. Bilheimer then was asked to report on the consultant on race relations. Recently a small anonymous donation was made in Swiss francs and through Mr. Francis Miller another donor had given $ 3,000.- toward this work. With this sum of altogether $ 3,500.- something can be done. It has been decided that Mr. Kitagawa spend two to three months this fall in the USA making inquiry with church people involved in race relations work, what they feel has been most effective and not effective as they have dealt with this problem. It is felt that the work of the U.S.A. churches in reference to race conflict in the U.S.A. will be of great interest to the Christians in other parts of the world. This visit of Mr. Kitagawa's therefore may be something of a trial run for what the race relations consultant or a permanent secretary may be doing in the future.

Dean Pope: Many efforts have been made since Evanston on this matter. Among others, an effort has been made to raise enough money to establish a department on race relations, but nothing has come out of it. The foundations in the U.S.A. which are interested in race relations are all prohibited from contributing to religious agencies. But there is one foundation which is willing to consider giving a fund to the World Council of Churches, with one condition, and that is that the work be done primarily in the U.S.A. Dean Pope asked whether a race relations consultant could be placed in the U.S.A. office, giving 2/3 of his time to work within the U.S.A. If this were possible, the foundation referred to above may very well consider giving a fund.

Sir Kenneth Grubb expressed his opinion that in any event the work of the race relations consultant or secretary not be restricted to the United States, nor would it be exclusively within church circles. He said that part of the difficulty of raising funds for this may rest in the fact that we are conceiving the work too narrowly within church circles. We have a great deal of difficulty in finding churchmen who are competent in the science of race relations and who are capable of working outside of the church. But if we are prepated to work with race relations experts outside of the church there should be no difficulty in raising funds.

Dr. Blake reported that the Programme and Finance Committee is proposing to have a race relations secretary attached to the Division of Ecumenical Action for the following three years and reminded the Committee that the action of the Yale meeting stated that the consultant may be financed by an outside fund.

Dean Pope proposed making the request of $ 17,000.- per year for a three year period but said that he did not see any chance to get this fund unless it is for the work primarily in the USA

Dr. Bliss asked whether the value of a consultant in the USA would increase becuase of his work outside the U. S.A.? That is to say, to work primarily in the U.S.A. should not preclude his working outside of the USA.

Dr. Visser 't Hooft stated that we might as well take what this foundation offers and place a consultant in the U.S.A. and then consider the possibility of having a second man for the Geneva office.

Dr. Blake asked if he is to work primarily for the U.S.A. why should he not be attached to N.C.C.C. U.S.A. rather than to the W.C.C?

Bishop Sherrill: We have been trying to have something done ever since Evanston and what Dean Pope reports is just about the most concrete thing that has ever been proposed. Why don't we authorize Dean Pope to further negotiate with the foundation and get this plan under way? We are here faced with getting either something done or nothing.

Dr. Blake: I would agree with Bishop Sherrill with one condition, namely that Dean Pope will consult the N.C.C., U.S.A, at its highest administrative level. This is of utmost importance from the standpoint of inter-demoninational promotion of ecumenical work in the U.S.A.

It was AGREED: To authorise Dean Pope to seek funds from the Foundation on the understanding that he will consult the general administrative officers of the N.C.C.C., U.S.A. concerning the arrangements which are required in the event of a favourable response by the Foundation.

17. Report of the Division of Studies

Dr. Bilheimer reported that through Canon Wedel a sum of $ 18,000.- was granted from the General Services Foundation for the Secretary of the Department on Evangelism. Dr. Bilheimer asked the Executive Committee to express its gratitude to Canon Wedel and it was agreed to do so.

Dr. Bilheimer presented a proposal, developed in consultation with the officers of the C.C.I.A. and the General Secretary, concerning the future of the study on "Christians and the Prevention of War in an Atomic Age: A theological Discussion". After discussion

It was AGREED that the Executive Committee

1. Has heard the report that the study document, "Christians and the Prevention of War in an Atomic Age - A Theological Discussion" has been sent to member churches as well as to individuals upon request, and notes that few documents upon it have as yet been received,

2. notes that discussion of these matters is proceeding in the member churches;

3. recalls that the Central Committee desires continuing study of the issues raised in the study document,

4. and therefore authorizes the continuation of the study in the following manner:

a) by collecting work being done independently by the churches and analysing its relation to the concerns of the study document, and

b) by the selection of 12-20 people, who would be asked to serve as consultants to the study commission. It would be the function of these consultants to comment upon the study document and upon documents in this field of member churches and national councils. The list of people to be invited should be drawn up by agreement of the officers of the study commission, the officers of the C.C.I.A. and the officers of the Executive Committee.

c) following the above steps, by empowering the officers of the Executive Committee to authorise a meeting of the study commission, reconstituted for the purpose by the Executive Committee or its officers, for further consideration of the study document in the light of results produced by the above process. This meeting might be held in February or March 1960, or earlier if justified.

5. It is understood that responsibility for the above work lies with the Division of Studies, and that in view of the implications of this study for the W.C.C. as a whole and for the C.C.I.A., the officers of the Division of Studies will consult with the officers of the Central Committee and of the C.C.I.A. in pursuance of the above outlined steps for the further conduct of the study.

18. Department of Information

Mr. Garrett reported that the Central Committee took an action at its meeting of 1957 to the effect that the Department be authorised to look into the possibilities of developing a radio and television programme. Dr. Kennedy, one of the members of the Committee, has been making a study of this proposition. Dr. Kennedy presented his report and after discussion

It was AGREED The Executive Committee, having heard with interest a provisional staff report on means of conducting a survey of the possible role of the W.C.C. in the field of radio and television
thanks the consultants of the Information Department who have prepared the provisional plan;
asks that it be considered by the appropriate members of W.C.C. staff and revised where necessary in the light of the discussion at the present meeting
requests the further consideration of the plan by the Committee of the Department of Information, for submission as revised to the Central Committee and implementation in its subsequent, finally approved form as soon as possible.

The Executive Committee expresses thanks to those who have assured financial support for the project.

19. Central Committee, August 1959, Island of Rhodes

The General Secretary reported that the Church of Greece is extremely anxious that the meeting take place and is doing everything possible to proceed with satisfactory arrangements. A memorandum on the present stage of the arrangements was presented.

Metropolitan James reported on the deep interest of the Ecumenical Patriarchate and of the Church of Greece in the meeting.

There was discussion of accommodations and facilities at Rhodes and in particular of the return travel arrangements (Athens-Rhodes); several wishes and requests will be taken up in correspondence with the Athens Committee.

It was agreed that special invitations should be sent to churches in the area which are not already represented through membership on the Central Committee.

The General Secretary reported on theme and programme indicating the difficulty in setting up an agenda covering the rather wide range of subjects that must be included. Among the matters requiring attention are the following: W.C.C. - I.M.C. Integration, Assembly Preparations

(with reports from Spittal), reports of the Division of Studies on Evangelism (D.T. Niles) and Use of the Bible (Edwin Robertson), Roman Catholic "Ecumenical Council", Report on Malaya meeting of E.A.C.C. It was felt that there should be one theme of particular appropriateness to our meeting at Rhodes and the encounter of the Eastern and Western Traditions within Christendom; this might take the form of two presentations dealing with "The Significance of the Eastern Tradition for Christendom" and "The Significance of the Western Tradition for Christendom". It was also stated that there must be discussion on the "Basis" and reports on Programme and Finance and Headqua rters Properties

20. Future Meetings

a) Meeting of Executive Committee - Buenos Aires, February 1960

After an introduction of the matter by the General Secretary, Bishop Barbieri reported on preliminary plans, stressing the significance of such a W.C.C. Meeting for Latin America, considering the important task before the Ecumenical Movement in a region of such great importance to the future of Christianity. Conferences with Dr. Benjamin Moraes and other church representatives revealed the desire for an Ecumenical Institute (s) or Consultation(s) for one or two days in Argentina and Brazil in connection with the Executive Committee meeting. He indicated key centers in a number of countries where visits and addresses by members would be useful.

It was noted that everyone in attendance at the present meeting of the Executive also hopes to be present in Buenos Aires.

The Executive will meet Monday February 8th to Friday February 12th. The suggested schedule would also include

February 5 - 6 : Consultation of Church leaders, Buenos Aires
February 7 : Preaching in churches, Buenos Aires
February 14 : Preaching, Sao Paulo and Buenos Aires
February 15-16 : Colsultation (on a somewhat smaller scale), Sao Paulo

b) Meeting of Central Committee, August 1960

1) Time and Place It was reported that the meeting rooms and halls of residence at the University of St. Andrew's will be available 2 - 12 August and 15 - 25 (or 26) August. The 50th Anniversary of the Edinburgh Missionary Conference will be commemorated with a special service in St. Giles' Cathedral Edinburgh, probably August 21.

It was decided to set the Executive Committee from August 14 (evening) to August 16 (afternoon) and the Central Committee from August 16 (evening) to August 25.

2) It was noted that there would be an observance of the 50th anniversary sponsored by the Conference of Missionary Societies at Westminster Abbey on June 21, 1960. Consideration was given to the relation of this service to the one at St. Giles' Edinburgh, as well as to programme questions (possible speakers etc) for the latter.

c) Executive Committee, February 1961

It was suggested that this meeting would probably take place in Geneva, and the dates were fixed for Monday February 6th to Friday February 10th, 1961

d) Enlarged Executive Committee, August 1961

Since 1961 is an Assembly year, the usual meeting of the Central Committee would likely be omitted and there would be an enlarged meeting of the Executive instead. The question was raised whether it might be advisable to hold this meeting (instead of the February 1961 meeting) in Geneva, and this question will be kept in mind.

21. Applications for Membership

The General Secretary reported that although several churches have been in correspondence with the W.C.C. with a view to applying for membership there is not sufficient information at hand in any of the cases to make a definite recommendation.

Approaches to the World Council have been made by:

a) United Church of Central Africa in Rhodesia.

b) Mission Church of Netherlands Reformed Churches in South Africa. This is a body of approximately 580,000 (non-white) members of the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa. The question of autonomy arises; formally they are already members through the parent body and all ordinances of their Synod are subject to the veto of the parent body, but the question of actual representation of the "Mission Church" should be considered. It was felt that there should be further correspondence with the Mission Church to which the parent body would also be a party.

c) Church of Christ in Athens
- a local group with a very small constituency.
(The question arose whether such cases should be reported at all, and it was felt that all cases should be reported to the Executive, but that cases like this one which obviously do not meet the qualifications for membership should not be reported to the Central Committee)

d) Musa ma Disco Christo Church, Ghana

e) Lumpa Church, Rhodesia

There was discussion of these two cases (d) and (e) and the wish was expressed that staff would concern itself as much as possible with the question of the African sects and possibilities of contact with them. Mr. Dagadu reported that in the case of (d) above, the Ghana N.C.C. had appointed a small committee to study this and other sects in that area and find out more about their teachings and practises.

f) Pfingstgemeinde (Pentecostalist) - Yugoslavia. Correspondence refers to 3000 members; further inquiries will be made by staff. Interest was expressed

in Pentecostalist developments in various parts of the world and approaches to the Ecumenical Movement on the part of some of their leaders and people. Staff was asked to consider whether a way might be found for someone on the W.C.C. or I.M.C. staff to make a serious study of Pentecostal sects. It was also noted that Dr. Goodall is presently doing some work in this field and that the Missionary Research Library, New York, is also working on the question.

Only one Council of Churches has applied for affiliation as an associated council: this is the newly-formed Austrian Council of Churches, made up of the Old Catholic Church, Evangelical Church "A and H.B." and the Methodist Church. It was agreed that this application may be brought before the Central Committee if further correspondence reveals that all the criteria are met.

22. Report on New York Office

Due to limitations of time there was not a full report, but Dr. Barnes reported a communication from Dr. Harry Denman of the Methodist Church (U.S.A.) which with the support of Bishop Oxnam, requests the World Council to call a World Conference on Evangelism. Dr. Barnes explained the nature of the request and referred to the work of the W.C.C. in this field.

It was AGREED that it should be recorded in the minutes that the request had been presented to the Executive Committee and that it would be referred in the regular way to the Department of Evangelism.

23. Finance

The report of the Finance Sub-Committee was presented by its Chairman, Dr. Blake. The report is set out below and the discussion and action of the Executive Committee is recorded after each section of the report.

a) First Estimate of results on General Budget 1958

"An expenditure level of $ 473,000 was authorised by the Executive Committee in February 1958 but over-expenditure was foreseen at the time of the Central Committee meeting in August 1958 and an allowance of $ 5,000 for this reason was added, raising the total level to $ 478,000. The first estimates suggest that this addition was just adequate and show total expenses of $ 477,532. The expenditure figures represent first estimates and not final figures for 1958 expenditure. The final expenditure figures for 1958 may be slightly higher but experience in the last two years suggests that the variation is likely to be slight.

Receipts for 1958 appear likely to be as follows:-

From member churches	$	428,000
Interest		6,375
Transfers from Division of Inter-Church Aid for Divisional Staff		9,984
for Information Dept.		15,000
	$	459,539

The figure for contributions from member churches is not yet definite and it may be subject to a variation of perhaps $ 1,000 either way.

Receipts therefore seem likely to total from $ 458,500 to $ 460,500.

The first estimates thus suggest that the 1958 accounts for the General Budget will close with a deficit which will, as forecast last August be about $ 20,000.

The Central Committee agreed in August 1958 that the deficit on the 1958 operations be covered from the Special Reserve. The balance on the Special Reserve at December 31, 1957 was $ 11,503. Contributions from member churches in the USA in 1958 exceeded the objective for US giving of $ 317,500 by $ 10,072. This amount will be added to the Special Reserve, raising the total to $ 21,575. Thus the balance on Special Reserve appears likely to be adequate to cover the deficit on the 1958 operations but there will be only a very small balance to carry forward to 1959".

The Executive Committee took note of this information.

b) Salaries and Allowances for Secretarial Staff, Geneva

"At their meetings in August 1958, the Executive and Central Committees approved in principle proposals for the granting of increased salaries and allowances to the Secretarial Staff at Geneva headquarters and authorized the Executive Committee to approve in February 1959, with retro-active effect to January 1, 1959, plans for the detailed implementation of those principles. The Finance Sub-Committee received and examined detailed proposals and, after careful study, recommends to the Executive Committee their adoption with retro-active effect to January 1, 1959."

The Executive Committee agreed to take this question in the executive session at which personnel questions were to be reviewed. At a later executive session, the Executive Committee agreed to adopt the recommendation of the Finance Sub-Committee.

c) Suggested Expenditure Level for 1959

"The Central Committee at its meeting in Nyborg gave approval to 1) a budget for 1959 totalling $ 495,000, generally based as to detailed budgets for divisions, departments, etc. upon the agreed level of expenditure for 1958 but adjusted to provide for the increased expenses of the East Asia Secretariat and the New York Office, for the agreed increase in salaries and allowances for the Executive Staff at Geneva Headquarters and for any other minor adjustments which may be necessary

The Finance Sub-Committee examined a statement giving details of the level of expenditure for 1959 suggested for approval by the Executive Committee. This statement included provision for the expense involved under item (b) above. It did not, however, include any provision for unforeseen developments or expenses but represented the lowest level to which expenditure forecasts could be limited after such consultations with divisional and departmental staffs as had been possible in the available time. It represented a lower level of expenditure than indicated by divisions and departments as necessary for the fulfilment of their planned programme of work. In particular, the Working Committee of the Department of Faith and Order approved at its meeting in July 1958 a budget for 1959

for that department totalling Fr. 81,000 whereas the amount included in the suggested level of expenditure was Fr. 73,350. Financial limitations are thus now imposing a marked restriction of the programmes of work approved by departmental and divisional committees and the Central Committee.

On the other hand, the suggested level of expenditure totalled $ 499,000 or $ 4,000 more than the budget level authorized by the Central Committee. The Executive Committee has thus no power to authorize a level exceeding $ 495,000 and the General Secretariat had suggested that it be directed to undertake the necessary staff consultations to determine at what points economies totalling $ 4,000 could be effected. The Finance Sub-Committee confirmed that operations must, at least until the Central Committee meeting in August 1959, be conducted on a basis which would not involve expenditure in 1959 exceeding in total $ 495,000 and agreed to recommend to the Executive Committee approval of a level of expenditure for 1959 of $ 495,000, representing the detailed statement examined by the Finance Sub-Committee, reduced to a total of $ 495,000 at such points as may be determined by the General Secretariat.

Income for 1958 has been estimated above at $ 458,500 to $ 460,500. The Central Committee meeting at Nyborg called on the member churches to make an increase of 15% in contributions. This means that contributions from member churches in the USA up to a maximum of $ 365,125 can be taken as revenue for the General Budget in 1959. If contributions in 1959 should be at the same level as those in 1958, that would provide an addition of about $ 10,000 in income, raising the total to a level from $ 468,500 to $ 470.500

It is too early to forecast the extent to which member churches will be able to respond in 1959 to the request for an increase in contributions. Some churches have notified decisions to increase contributions in 1960 and in addition to provide in 1960 a retro-active increase for 1959. Other churches have indicated that decisions along one or the other of these lines are being sought. With an expenditure of $ 495,000 and a minimum income forecast of $ 468,500 to $ 470,500, a maximum deficit of the order of $ 25,000 seems possible. The Central Committee meeting at Nyborg agreed that any deficit resulting from the 1959 operations should be covered by reducing if necessary the 1959 allocation of $ 20,000 to the General Reserve with the intention of increasing allocations to that reserve in 1960 and/or 1961, so as to ensure that not less than $ 60,000 shall be added to the reserve in the three years 1959/61 taken together. Information so far received would appear to give assurance that increases in member church contributions in 1959 will exceed the amount necessary to bring the deficit down to a level which can be handled under the foregoing decisions."

After brief discussion, the Executive Committee agreed to adopt the recommendations of the Finance Sub-Committee.

Dr. Blake reported that the expense of the reception given in Geneva in the name of the World Council during the present meeting of the Executive Committee had been covered by an anonymous donor and the Executive Committee took grateful note of this information.

d) Retirement and Widows' Pension Fund

"The Finance Sub-Committee was informed that the study of this problem had been pursued under the authorisation granted by the Central Committee meeting in August 1957 and that a study of the proposed scheme by a Genevese actuary indicated that, with minor modifications, the plan appeared financially viable on the basis of an annual allocation of 6% of total salaries. After discussion of the plan and the minor modifications proposed since the 1957 meeting, the Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend:

a) that the actuary's report be referred for consideration to certain members of the Finance Committee;

b) that the plan be fully developed for submission to the Central Committee in August 1959.

The Finance Sub-Committee noted that provision at 6% of total salaries has been set aside since July 1, 1957 and that no increase in expenditure would be involved by the adoption of a plan by the Central Committee in August 1959".

Dr. Blake recalled that proposal was not for a funded scheme, that the scheme would not be contributory and that staff members would not be able to claim benefits ' of right'. He pointed out the complexities of the problem in an international body like the World Council and outlined the proposals in some detail. The Executive Committee agreed to adopt the proposals of the Finance Sub-Committee.

e) Division of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees

"The Finance Sub-Committee was informed that for special reasons, the Administrative Committee of the Division would be meeting after the Executive Committee and not, as was customary, before it. Oral reports were therefore received on this occasion, instead of the customary written reports, accompanied by recommendations from the Administrative Committee.

i) Service Programme in 1958

Income for 1958 is expected slightly to exceed the budget level of $ 825.000 and expenditure will be somewhat below budget level. There will thus be a small surplus which, in accordance with past practice, will be carried forward to 1959 as an unallocated surplus.

The Finance Sub-Committee noted with gratification that the supporting churches and agencies had raised their contributions to the full level of the 1958 budget of $ 825,000, which represented an increase from $ 750,000 for 1957. It was further reported that prospects for the raising of the further increased budget of $ 850,000 for 1959 were encouraging and the Finance Sub-Committee expressed the hope that the full budget might again be secured.

ii) Service to Refugees - 1958

The operations of the Service to Refugees form a part of the

Service Programme, the operations being conducted on a basic budget of $ 500,000 from the Service Programme total of $ 825,000. The Finance Sub-Committee was informed that the 1958 budget would close with a deficit of about $ 15,000. This result had been foreseen in August 1958 and a provisional allocation of that amount made from the unallocated surplus on the Service Programme at December 31, 1957. Thus the action taken in August 1958 seemed likely to be adequate to permit the satisfactory closing of the 1958 accounts.

iii) Travel Loan Fund - Revolving Fund

Last October, it was forecast that the overdraft on this fund would decline from about $ 132,000 at the beginning to about $ 46,500 at the end of 1958. Detailed figures were not available but it was clear that the position would be more satisfactory than foreseen in previous forecasts because fewer refugees were moved and fewer loans granted in 1958 than had been hoped for and planned. The position of the fund is therefore satisfactory

iv) World Council of Churches Travel Loan Fund

Last October, it was forecast that the overdraft on this fund would decline from about $ 280,000 at the beginning to about $ 160,000 at the end of 1958. Detailed figures were not available but it was reported that the position was very close to that forecast. The overdraft was reduced in 1958 and the planned measures further to reduce it will be continued".

Dr. Fry expressed the view that the response of the churches and agencies supporting the Service Programme, to the increase in the level of that budget represents an encouraging sign of the strenght of the movement and also that great credit is due to the staff for the achievement represented by that programme and for the sound financial position.

Dr. Blake recalled that, thcugh it was encouraging that the position of the Revolving Fund was improved, the reason, namely the movement of fewer refugees, was one which was a matter of regret and not satisfaction.

The Executive Committee took note of this report and of the fact that the various questions would be examined in detail by the Administrative Committee of the Division.

f) Fidelity Insurance

"The Finance Sub-Committee received a reviewed and detailed offer and one provisional offer for a fidelity insurance policy covering all W.C.C staff. The available information was found to be insufficient and the Finance Sub-Committee decided to request that further enquiries be made and additional facts secured and reported to the Finance Committee meeting in August to permit a decision to be taken at that time."

Dr. Blake added that the Finance Sub-Committee had felt that, since the provisional offer received was somewhat cheaper than the one definite offer in hand, and since opinion was divided and the membership of the Sub-Committee was small, the matter should be further studied and

re-submitted for decision by the full Finance Committee in August. The Executive Committee agreed to adopt this recommendation.

g) Headquarters Properties - Staff Assistance

"The Finance Sub-Committee received a report from Bishop Sherrill on the progress made to date in raising funds for the new headquarters properties.

After discussion, and recognising the need for intensive work on this problem during the next six months, the Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend that the General Secretariat be authorised to seek to find for a period limited in the first instance to six months, a person of suitable knowledge and qualifications who could devote his full time to seeking to assist in the creation of national or regional committees in the various parts of the world and to assist those committees by the provision of needed information and printed material and in other ways, in the fulfilment of their task and further that authority be given to the Chairman of the International Committee (Bishop Sherrill) and the Chairman of the Finance Committee (Dr. Blake) to authorise the appointment of such a person, his salary and expenses to be charged to the Headquarters Properties Fund."

The Executive Committee agreed to adopt this recommendation.

h) Use of General Reserve of Ecumenical Institute

"The Finance Sub-Committee was informed of two proposals involving the use of the General Reserve of the Ecumenical Institute, which amounts to Fr. 184,884 or $ 43,197, namely:

i) that endeavours be made to find and engage a fourth member of the professional staff and that the salary of such a fourth staff member for the period to 1961 be covered by the use of the General Reserve of the Ecumenical Institute; and

ii) that endeavours be made to sell Petit Bossey and to erect a new building near the Chateau, consisting of a library with space for reading, a lecture-room and bed-rooms for about thirty people and that the General Reserve of the Ecumenical Institute be used to supplement the proceeds of the sale of Petit Bossey in order to cover the cost of the new building.

The Finance Sub-Committee first discussed the need for a permanent separate reserve fund for the Institute. It was recognised that there are considerations which distinguish the Institute from other divisions and departments and justify the existence of a separate reserve fund, particularly the fact that the Institute is housed in a special separate property owned by the World Council. The existence of a reserve might be valuable in permitting the continuance of the operation of the Institute if at any time the resources of the W.C.C. should be inadequate to cover the full annual expense. Reference was made to the possible use of the reserve for an expanded scholarship programme. The Finance Sub-Committee concluded, however, that there are no circumstances

or past decisions which make it imcumbant on the World Council to maintain a separate reserve.

Concerning proposal i) the Finance Sub-Committee was informed that the need for a fourth member of staff has been recognised by the Evanston Assembly and the Central Committee and that the Programme and Finance Committee, in its interim report, would be recommending that the General Budget should make provision for a fourth staff member in the period following the Third Assembly.

Conerning proposal .ii) the Finance Sub-Committee was informed that Petit Bossey had been valued at Fr. 350,000 and that the cost of the suggested new building had been estimated at approximately Fr. 450,000 to 500,000. It would be necessary to find a buyer willing to wait for vacant occupation until such time as the new building was completed.

The Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend that, provided that the proposals represented agreed policy of the Division of Ecumenical Action and policy approved by the Executive Committee:

I) in the event of the engagement of a fourth member of the professorial staff at Bossey and if other resources are not available to cover the expense involved, the salary expense involved may be charged to the General Reserve of the Ecumenical Institute.

II) that if Petit Bossey be sold and a new building erected, any balance not committted under I) of the General Reserve of the Ecumenical Institute may be used to the extent needed, for the cost of a new building erected to replace Petit Bossey and to provide a new library and lecture room

III) that power be given to the officers of the Central Committee, the Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Chairman of the Board of the Ecumenical Institute to accept an offer for the purchase of Petit Bossey, if an offer on satisfactory terms is received and action is necessary between meetings of the Executive Committee.

In making these recommendations, the Finance Sub-Committee drew attention to the following facts: the recommendations presuppose that, except for the power granted under III). all plans concerning new building at Bossey will be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval before commitments are entered into; and the implementation of both proposals would result in the virtual extinction of the General Reserve of the Ecumenical Institute and indeed if proposal .i) is implemented, the funds available might necessitate a limitation of the plan for the new buildin to a magnitude less than that presently desired and planned."

Dr. Bliss, Chairman of the Board of the Ecumenical Institute, spoke to these proposals. Both had been discussed at length last summer. The proposal to add a fourth member to the professorial staff was not new and the nedd great and urgent. The Graduate School has grown in size and quality; during the Graduate School the staff is not looking forward to a vacation but engaged in planning the summer programme; the usefulness of the staff would be enhanced by travel and by greater participation in the general programme of the W.C.C.

As to the buildings, Mrs. Bliss mentioned that the current Graduat School included 7 persons working on doctoral theses. The utter inadequacy of the present library accommodation is generally recognised, as is the need for more single rooms; the dormitory accommodation is suitable for short conferences of young people but not for longer stays or for senior people. The proposal was not for precipitate sale of Petit Bossey but for sale only if a satisfactory offer is received.

Mrs. Bliss recalled that Bossey earns money as well as spending it. Apart from the importance for financial support generally of the educational activity of Bossey, increased occupancy would mean increased receipts for board and lodging.

After discussion, the Executive Committee agreed to adopt recommendations I - III above, on the understanding that all plans concerning the erection of a new buklding at Bossey will be submitted to the Executive Committee for approval before commitments are entered into.

i) Additional Office Accommodation in Geneva .

"It had been reported at previous meetings that the presently available office accommodation is inadequate for present needs and still more inadequate for the total period until the earliest date at which the new building can be completed. The Finance Sub-Committee was informed that a proposal had been prepared in detail and discussed with the City authorities for the erection of a barrack behind No. 15, route de Malagnou. The total cost is estimated at Fr. 45,000 to 52,500. It is not yet clear how far the City authorites will be prepared to cover the cost, since the barrack will be erected on land belonging to the City, and how far the cost would fall on the World Council.

The Finance Sub-Committee discussed the proposal and noted that the expense could be covered from the Reserve for Repairs to Malagnou Properties which will become a free reserve as a result of the transfer of title to those properties to the City of Geneva and which amounts to about Fr. 75,000. The proposal would involve little if any more expense than renting further outside accommodation and that alternative solution would, even if such space could be found in the reasonably near vicinity of the present offices, be less satisfactory in terms of working efficiency

The Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend:

i) that the expenditure of the sum needed, up to an absolute maximum of Fr. 52,500, for the erection of a barrack for temporary office accommodation behind No. 15 route de Malagnou, as a charge against the Reserve for Repairs to Malagnou Properties be approved.

ii) that the General Secretariat be authorised to negotiate with contractors and the City Authorities for such a barrack to be erected and to contract as necessary for the work to be done, subject to the approval of the final plans as to financial responsibility by the Chairman of the Finance Committee".

Dr. Blake confirmed the urgent need for extra office accommodation

and mentioned the alternative possibilities which had been examined and rejected. The Executive Committee agreed to adopt recommendations i) and ii) above.

j) Cheque signatories

"A panel of six signatories is at present authorized to operate all World Council bank accounts in New York and Geneva. The panel comprises the General Secretary, the three AGS's in Geneva, the Director of Finance and Administration and the Chief Accountant. In August 1958 this panel plus a seventh member . the Secretary for Accounts and Finance - was authorized to operate the bank in London. The Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend the addition of the Secretary for Accounts and Finance as a seventh authorised signatory for the New York and Geneva bank accounts and the inclusion in the minutes of this meeting of such formal bank resolutions as necessary to give effect to this decision.

The Executive Committee agreed to adopt these recommendations and the formal resolutions wet out in Appendix 2.

k) Personnel Questions

"The Finance Sub-Committee agreed to recommend the granting of dependent relative allowences to three staff members eligible for this allowence, subject to approval of the allowances by the Executive Committee".

The Executive Committee agreed to adopt this recommendation.

At a later meeting, in executive session, the Executive Committee approved the payment of fares for home leave to the family of one Secretarial Staff member eligible for home leave.

l) Investment Portfolio

i) Investments against General Reserves of the World Council and the Ecumenical Institute

Additional shares were purchased under the decision of the Central Committee meeting in Nyborg, raising the book value of investments against these reserves at December 31, 1958 to Fr. 1,073,114 or $ 250,728 The total credit balance on the two reserves at December 31, 1958 was $ 251,170. Market value at December 31, 1958 was $ 251,546 and thus exceeded book value. In addition, there is an Investment Fluctuation Fund of £ 10,000.

Since it is not yet clear what addition to the General Reserve will be made in 1959, it is not suggested that any further investments should be purchased before the Central Committee meeting next August".

ii) Investments against Reserve for Expenses of Third Assembly

"Additional bonds were purchased under the decision of the Central Committee meeting in Nyborg, raising the book value of investments at December 31, 1958 to Fr. 345,265 or $ 80,669. The credit balance

the
on/reserve at December 31, 1958 was $ 80,000. The market value of the bonds at December 31, 1958 was $ 78,723. but they are all repayable shortly before or, in one case, shortly after the date of the Third Assembly. Since they will be redeemed at nominal value, differences between market value and nominal value at December 31,1958 need cause no anxiety.

The interest received on the above investments will be applied in the first instance in writing off any premiums paid in purchasing bonds so as to reduce the book value to nominal value. Thereafter all interests received will be credited to the Reserve for the Expenses of the Third Assembly.

Since the beginning of 1959, a further Sfr. 40,551 or $ 9,475 have been invested in Kingdom of Belgium Railway Bonds of a nominal value of Fr. 40,000 in anticipation of the addition of $ 20,000 to this reserve in 1959"

iii) Investments against Headquarters Properties Fund

"As reported at the meeting of the Central Committee in August 1958, net receipts against this fund to that date had been placed in savings bank account. The amount so deposited was Fr. 251,084.40 or $ 58,665 and the interest earned to December 31, 1958 was Fr. 2,029.37 or $ 474. Th That amount represents the maximum sum which under present circumstances the savings bank can accept on savings account terms .

Further contributions were received in the final weeks of 1958 and US Treasury Bills of a value of $ 60,000 repayable April 2 1959 were purchased on January 7, 1959 for $ 59,640.87 (interest rate 2.535 % p.a.)

A contribution of $ 400,000 was received by the Friends of the W.C.C New York, and promptly invested in 3 month US Treasury notes maturing February 4 1959.

After discussion, the Sub-Committee agreed to recommend:

I. that all gifts to this find should be transferred with reasonable speed (e.g. at least at monthly or quarterly intervals) to W.C.C., Geneva for investment;

II. that by reason of the nature of the fund, all investments should be in interest-bearing deposit accounts or notes, bonds or bills of suitable maturity date, preference being given to those redeemable in Swiss Francs, since the ultimate expenses against the fund will be in that currency;

III. that authority be given to the Treasurer of the International Committee and the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration to invest all funds received, without prior approval from but with regular reporting of actions taken to the Chairman of the Finance Committee, to Mr. Charles Parlin and to Bishop Sherrill;

IV. that, subject to holding $ 100,000 in readily realizable form all sums available in excess of that amount may be invested

on terms involving maturity not later than December 31, 1961

Iv) Revolving Portfolio from current liquid resources

"The liquid position of the World Council has become such that it would be possible to create a revolving portfolio of short-term US Treasury bills or bank acceptances. By investing on 3 month terms, it would be possible to review the position monthly and determine whether to re-invest the amount of the maturing bills or acceptances or a greater or a lesser sum, in the light of the current position. Experience in recent months indicates that the total portfolio might be of the order of $ 250,000.

The Sub-Committee discussed this suggestion and agreed to recommend:

I) that authority be given to the Vice-Chairman of the Finance Committee and the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration to purchase short-term US Treasury bills or first-class bank acceptances for the operation of a revolving portfolio to the extent found possible in the light of the liquid resources held by W.C.C., without prior approval from but subject to regular reporting of actions taken to the Chairman of the Finance Committee and to Mr. Charles Parlin.

II) that interest earned on this portfolio be credited in appropriate proportions to the General Budget and to the administrative budgets of the Division of Inter-Church Aid and Service to Refugees, subject to approval of the allocation by the Finance Committee and the Central Committee at the 1959 meetings."

The Executive Committee received the above report and noted with satisfaction that the general reserves and the Headquarters Properties Fund were fully invested and that the liquid position now permitted the creation of a revolving portfolio. Dr. Fry recalled the discussions at earlier meetings of the difficult liquid position and underlined the encouraging improvement in the position. In reply to Bishop Oxnam, Dr. Blake confirmed that although power had in past years been granted for money to be borrowed on the security of the investments against the general reserves, it had at no time been necessary to act under that power.

The Executive Committee agreed to adopt the recommendations under paragraphs iii) and iv) above.

24. Headquarters Properties

a) Property Exchange with the City of Geneva

The Executive Committee was informed that the Municipal Council of the City of Geneva had on February 10, 1959, voted unanimously to approve the exchange of the World Council properties at route de Malagnou of an area of 8,056 square meters against the city-owned property at Grand Saconnex of an area of about 34,000 square metres on the terms already

approved by the Central Committee meeting in August 1958. The decision is final, subject only to a delay of 30 days during which the technical possibility exists that a referendum can be demanded to confirm or reverse the decision.

The Executive Committee received this report with satisfaction and with an expression of appreciation to the authorities of the City of Geneva.

b) Progress in raising Headquarters Properties Funds

Bishop Sherrill stressed the urgency of the need for assurance of funds. The present properties are inadequate and furthermore they will now be transferred to the City under the exchange of properties. It is therefore most important that the Central Committee meeting in August 1959 should have assurance that the necessary resources have been received or promised or will be forthcoming and should thus be able to authorize construction to be started.

Bishop Sherrill reported that little evidence had been received as yet of an active response from Central Committee members in general under their commitment to support him and the International Committee in the fund raising campaign and that he therefore, at the request of the Finance Sub-Committee, planned to write a letter to each Central Committee member reporting the progress so far made and seeking active participation from all countries.

Bishop Sherrill reported that good progress had nonetheless been made in the six months since August 1958. Against the total objective of $ 2.1/2 million, roughly $ 1 million had been obtained, including the $ 300,000 for the raising of which member churches were asked in 1955 to accept responsibility. The U.S. Committee was active and Germany had already made excellent progress. He had had discussions concerning the Canadian Contribution. He would, after the Executive Committee meeting, have discussions with groups or committees in Geneva, Copenhagen, Amsterdam and London to discuss campaigns in the four countries.

Thus good initial progress could be reported but much remains to be done if assurance of the total of $ 2-1/2 million is to be secured by August 1959. Bishop Sherrill counted on the maximum support from all members of the Executive and Central Committees in realising the objective. He stressed the importance of securing contributions from all countries and areas so that the fund may represent the widest possible geographical spread of support.

Bishop Sherrill asked whether any difficulty was seen in the acceptance of an individual gift, if one should be offered, for an element of the building (e.g. the library) to be a memorial to an individual. It was recalled that the Central Committee in 1955 approved the possibility that buildings might be memorials to pioneers of the ecumenical movement. The Executive Committee recognised that offers of memorials could, under certain circumstances, raise difficult problems and agreed:

that gifts to the Headquarters Properties Fund for memorials to individuals might be accepted subject to approval by the Chairman of the International Committee, the officers of the Central Committee and the Chairman of the Finance Committee of the memorial terms.

In reply to a question from Dr. Pope, Dr. Blake agreed that it was most important that Asian African and Latin American contributions should be secured, particularly towards the $ 300,000 element for the raising of which member churches were asked to accept responsibility but also towards the general campaign.

In reply to Dr. Barnes, Bishop Sherrill explained that assurance of funds was needed by August 1959 but actual payment of gifts could be spread up to the end of 1960 and, provided that proportion of the total was not great, even into 1961. Building operations should not be approved involving costs exceeding assured resources, hence the need for assurances for the 1959 August meetings.

The Executive Committee received the report with a warm expression of appreciation to Bishop Sherrill for his active and effective leadership of the campaign.

c) Related Organisations and new Headquarters

Dr. Visser 't Hooft reported, and the Executive Committee noted with interest, that official letters had been received expressing the desire of the Presbyterian World Alliance, the Lutheran World Federation and the World Methodist Council that accommodation for them should be provided in the new Headquarters Properties.

d) Architects' plans.

Mr. Senn and Mr. Lesemann attended a meeting at which Mr. Senn presented the revised and reworked plans for the new buildings. Discussion centered on the plan for the chapel, the plans otherwise meeting with general warm approval.

Mr. Senn agreed that, in addition to the present plan of a square chapel and the present roof design, alternative forms which would provide architectural unity and harmony could be developed. There was discussion of the possibility of an octagonal form for the chapel and reference to the possibility of a tower or a spire but no decisions were taken. After a discussion in which Mr Senn gave his reasons for placing the table or altar in the central part of the chapel, surrounded by the congregation, the Executive Committee concluded such a form would not be acceptable to certain traditions within the World Council membership. Mr. Senn expressed the desire for an opportunity to discuss with theologians the essential liturgical and theological problems involved in the design of the chapel. He stated that he would be able to produce alternative plans for the chapel in two months.

After Mr. Senn and Mr. Lesemann had withdrawn, Dr. Blake reported

on the discussions in the Headquarters Properties Committee and stressed the need for final plans and cost estimates for presentation to the Central Committee meeting in August 1959. He then presented a series of recommendations to the Executive Committee and after discussion and minor amendment of those recommendations, the Executive Committee agreed:

(i) to approve the plans for the headquarters (except the chapel - see below) as proposed by the architects and to direct the architects to proceed to develop the detailed plans and specifications for not less than stages 1 and 2 in order that the Executive Committee next August may have bids from Contractors for the construction

(ii) to authorise the General Secretariat, in colsultation with the Chairman of the Headquarters Properties Committee, to decide whether detailed plans for stage 3 and bids thereon shall be presented to the Executive Committee in August

(iii) that, with regard to the chapel, the Executive Committee:

I. request the General Secretariat, after consultation with theological and liturgical advisors from the various traditions, to satisfy itself that the final plans for the chapel are sufficiently in harmony with the various traditions, liturgical practices and confictions of the member churches of the W.C.C. to make the chapel ecumenically acceptable .

II. request the architects to continue to develop the plans for the chapel on the basis of the consultations suggested in I above and to present the revised conception of the chapel by such techniques as may be found necessary to permit an adequate appreciation of it (e.g. a detailed model and views of the chapel and of the whole building in perspective)

III. authorise the officers of the Executive Committee, with the Chairman of the Headquarters Properties Committee, to authorise the architects to develop the detailed plans for the chapel, when a satisfactory preliminary design has been submitted to the end that bids from contractors for the chapel may if at all possible be before the Committee at its meeting next August.

The Executive Committee finally agreed by vote to express the judgement that a plan for the interior of the Chapel with the table or altar in the central area and a pulpit behind it, is not acceptable.

25. Programme and Finance Committee

Dr. Blake reported that the Programme and Finance Committee had held a three day meeting, with full attendance of members, immediately preceding the meeting of the Executive Committee. After examining tentative suggestions for a level for the General Budget after the Third Assembly totalling $ 750,000, the Programme and Finance Committee had first found reasons to raise the total to $ 907,000 (including, in this version, a provision for inflation at the rate of 2% p.a. until the Fourth Assembly) and had then cut it back to $ 815,000 and finally to $ 747,500 and this was the level which would be mentioned in the report to the 1959 Central Committee meeting. The final form of this suggested budgetwas considered to represent an honest presentation of what the suggested programme would cost, with some provision for possible inflation, though probably not enough to cover the inflation which might well occur in the full period to the Fourth Assembly. Dr. Blake gave an outline of the contents of the report developed at the recent meeting. He explained that that report would be circulated for comment to the I.M.C. Administrative Committee, the Joint Committee and Divisional and Departmental Committees, would be presented together with the comments of those committees to the August meetings of the Executive Committee and of the Central Committee and would thereafter, in such form and with such covering document as the Central Committee might decide, be circulated to the member churches for their comments. The Programme and Finance Committee would then meet early in 1960 and prepare its final report to the Central Committee for presentation at the 1960 meeting. The Central Committee would transform that report into its own report to the Third Assembly.

In reply to a question from Dr. Pope, Dr. Blake reported that, considering the short time since the request was made, there had been an encouraging response from the member churches to the request from the 1958 Central Committee meeting for an increas of at least 15 % in contributions to the General Budget. In reply to Bishop Oxnam, Dr. Blake stated that a budget level of $ 747,500 implied that, if member church contributions are increased in 1959/60 by 15% over the estimated 1958 level, following the request made last summer, there would be need for a further increase of about 47% of the increased level for the period following the Third Assembly. Bishop Oxnam drew attention to the particular need of the Methodist Church which will begin in 1959 the process of determining its contribution for the period following the Third Assembly; he suggested that other churches might well also need considerable advance warning.

In reply to Dr. Fry, Dr. Blake stated that integration, if effected will not as such involve any significant increase in expenditure. The budget of the I.M.C. or the Division of World Mission and Evangelism may be greater in 1962 than the 1959 level but the reason for any increase would not in any significant measure be integration. Dr. Visser 't Hooft pointed out that activities are already so inter-related that integration would hardly involve increased expenditure. Dr. Blake further explained that, in the event of integration, the recommendation was that the Division of World Mission and Evangelism should have a budget separate from the General Budget, with separately raised support; this separate budget would be similar to the Service Programme budget of the Division of Inter-Church

Aid and Service to Refugees. This particular question would be further reviewed by the Administrative Committee of I.M.C. and the Joint Committee. Dr. Blake further stated that in the event of integration, the budget of the new division would not be expected to contribute to the general costs of the W.C.C. but would, of course, be expected to cover the cost of any extra services which the division might request.

Dr. Blake explained that the report does not suggest the undertaking of any new activities but recommends a budget which would provide for two items which have been approved but are not presently covered by the General Budget - Race Relations and Religious Liberty - for possible increased expenditure on regional developments, for an increase for $ 20,000 to $ 30,000 in the annual provision for the next Assembly, for strengthening of the General Secretariat, the Divisional and Departmental staffs and the service units- Information, Library and Finance and Administration, for increased expenses arising by reason of the new properties and an item of $ 50,000 for Contingencies, intended primarily as a provision against inflation between now and the Third Assembly and in the period following the Third Assembly.

In reply to Dr. Pope, Dr. Blake confirmed that the proposed budget covered both Race Relations and the addition of a fourth member of the professorial staff at Bossey. In reply to Bishop Oxnam, Dr. Visser 't Hooft explained that the Committee on the future of Faith and Order was continuing its study and that the Programme and Finance report would recommend a strengthening of staff and budget but not a change in the structural place of Faith and Order within the W.C.C.

Dr. Fry pointed out that the one point offering flexibility (e.g. for any further salary adjustments) would be the provision of $ 50,000 for contingencies, including inflation. Dr. Payne stated that the discussions had led to the conclusion that a lower level of budget would hardly be realistically possible without eliminating a department or even a division.

The Executive Committee took note of this report and of the proposed plan for the submission and consideration of the report of the Committee on Programme and Finance.

26. Staff Matters

Dr. Payne submitted the proposals of the Staffing Committee and the following decisions were taken

1. The Committee noted that according to the authorization given by the Executive Committee at Nyborg, the Rev. Dr. Garfield Williams of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland, had been appointed Secretary of the Desk for European Churches of DICASR, for the period February 1,1959 - January 31,1962.

It was

2. AGREED to give power to the staff to discuss with Mr. William Stringfellow of the Portestant Episcopal Church, U.S.A, a post in which he would serve the Department on Co-operation of Men and Women in Church and Society and the Department on the Laity, and if satisfactory arrangements can be made to appoint him to that post for three years subject to funds being available.

3. It was reported that Miss Roberta Riggleman had resigned her post in the Department of Information as of May 23 1959. No proposals as to her successor were at hand, and the staff was asked to present proposals to the officers of the Executive Committee who are empowered to make the appointment.

4. It was reported that the Rev. John Garrett had indicated his desire to leave his post in 1960. There had not been time to consider the matter of his successor, and the staff will seek to bring proposals to the Committee at an early date.

5. It was reported that the I.M.C. will probably invite the Rev. Victor Hayward of the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland to become Research Secretary of the I.M.C. and therefore Executive Secretary of the Department of Missionary Studies.

It was therefore

AGREED to concur, with satisfaction, in the action of the I.M.C. in inviting Mr. Hayward to this post.

6. After discussion the Committee

AGREED to empower the staff after inquiries to invite the Rev. E.R. Wickham of the Church of England to serve as the Executive Secretary of the Department on Evangelism for a period of three years.

AGREED: That in the event that Mr. Wickham is not approached or does not accept, or cannot accept at once, Prof. Rudolf Obermüller be asked to serve as the Executive Secretary of the Department on Evangelism for one year.

7. It was reported that Philip Potter would leave in 1960, and the staff was asked to bring proposals regarding a successor as soon as possible.

8. After discussion, it was

AGREED: to empower the General Secretary to explore the following possibilities for a fourth member of staff of the Ecumenical Institute, and if satisfactory results are forthcoming to appoint

as first choice : U Than Han of Burma
as second choice: Mr. Masao Takenaka of Japan

for a maximum term of three years.

The Committee noted that the term of Dr. Nissiotis would be up in September 1960, and asked that the question be raised with authorities in his church, looking toward the extension of his term at the Ecumenical Institute for a further year, until September 1961

11. After discussion, it was

AGREED that the officers of the Executive Committee be

empowered to appoint a successor to Mr. Nicholson as Secretary for World Youth Projects.

It was also

AGREED that the officers of the Executive Committee be empowered to appoint a successor to Miss Louise Gehan as Associate Secretary of the Youth Department.

12. It was

AGREED that the following dates be determined for the appointement (previously made) of the following persons

Mrs Noya Burton to December 31, 1960
Mlle Simone Mathil, to December 31, 1960
Mlle Véronique Laufer to December 31, 1960

13. It was

AGREED that the appointment of Mr. B. Sjollema as Staff Consultant for Migration in DICASR be extended for one year, ending December 31, 1960.

14. It was

AGREED that Mr. John Taylor be reappointed as Secretary in the Department of Information for three years, ending August 31, 1962.

15. It was

AGREED to reappoint Miss Betty Thompson as Secretary for Information in the New York Office for an additional period ending January 31, 1962 (3 years and 2 1/2 months)

16 It was

AGREED that the following date be determined for the appointment of Dr. Carillo, namely to January 31, 1962.

27. Orthodox Church - Finland.

The Metropolitan of Melita referred to his attendance at the 40th Anniversary celebration of this Church in October 1958 and to the great satisfaction expressed at a gathering of about a thousand people in the City Hall of Kuopio, when the telegram from the General Secretary was read to them. He conveyed to the Executive Committee the expression of gratitude of the Orthodox Church of Finland.

28. Church Situation - Rumania

The Metropolitan of Melita called attention to the vitality of Church life in Rumania and to the serious difficulties now being faced by the Orthodox and other churches there.

The Executive Committee expressed its concern over the Church situation in Rumania and its brotherly sympathy with the churches and people.

29. Theological Consultation, Athens

The General Secretary announced that plans are being made by the Department on Faith and Order in cooperation with the Church of Greece for a small theological consultation - with both Orthodox and non-Orthodox participation - to take place immediately preceding the meeting of the Executive Committee.

30. Greetings

a) Cablegrams of greeting were received from and sent to the Ecumenical Patriarch.

b) The chairman greeted Dr. M.R. Zigler, recovered from his accident wich occurred during the Nyborg meetings.

31. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at noon on Friday February 13th, 1959.

Appendix 1.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Appendix to Executive Committee Minutes, February 1959

COMMINIQUE

NO FORMAL COMMENT ON POPE'S PROPOSAL
MADE BY WCC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches meeting in Geneva, Switzerland, decided today to withhold formal comment on the recent announcement from the Vatican that the Pope proposes to call an ecumenical council which, it has been stated, will have the furthering of Christian unity as one of its concerns.

Widespread interest in this subject was reported by the 13 members present on the part of the 171 Orthodox, Anglican, Protestant and Old Catholic churches belonging to the World Council in 53 countries. However, the lack of factual information about the proposed council made it impossible in the judgement of the committee to make any specific statement at this time.

General approval was given by the committee to the words of the World Council's General Secretary, Dr. W.A. Visser 't Hooft: "Much depends on the manner in which the council will be called and the spirit in which the question of Christian unity will be approached. The question is how ecumenical will the council be in composition and in spirit?"

The view was unanimously expressed by the executive committee that the experience of the ecumenical movement, as represented by the World Council of Churches, indicates that "progress towards unity is made when churches meet together on the basis of mutual respect and with a full commitment on the part of each church to the truth of the Gospel, to charity and to a faithful interpretation of its deepest convictions". The most fruitful first steps in inter-church relations, the committee agreed, are actual cooperation among churches in service in working for a responsible society and a just and durable peace, in theological discussions, and in efforts to secure religious liberty for all people in every land.

The Executive Committee expressed the confidence that the member churches of the World Council will "continue to pray for unity as Christ wills it" and appointed a small group to keep under review the implications of the developments in connection with the proposed council for the whole cause of Christian unity

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Appendix 2.

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES

Appendix to Executive Committee Minutes, February 1959

Formal resolutions adopted by the Executive Committee regarding:

1. Authorisation of bank signatories for account with the Guaranty Trust Company of New York.

" That the Guaranty Trust Company of New York as a designated depositary of the World Council of Churches be and it is authorised and directed to pay cheques and other orders for the payment of money, including those drawn on the individual order of a signer, when signed by any two of the following officers signing jointly: the General Secretary, the three Associate General Secretaries stationed in Geneva, the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration, the Secretary for Finance and Accounts and the Chief Accountnat."

2. Authorisation of bank signatories for account with the Bankers Trust Company, New York:

" That the Bankers Trust Company of New York as a designated depositary of the World Council of Churches be and it is authorised and directed to pay cheques and other orders for the payment of money, including those drawn to the individual order of a signer, when signed by any two of the following officers signing jointly: the General Secretary, the three Associate General Secretaries stationed in Geneva, the Director of the Department of Finance and Administration, the Secretary for Finance and Accounts and the Chief Accountant.